

July 2024



The Messenger

God Listens to Your Heart - Pastor Mike Mirakian

It's a testimony to the genuineness of our faith that most prayers are not said out loud. We pray inside our minds, thinking words that our lips never pronounce but that we believe God hears just the same. Trusting that the unseen, all-knowing God can discern our prayerful thoughts gives evidence of remarkable faith.

I recently began reading *Chatter* by psychologist Ethan Kross, a fascinating exposition of our thought-life. We all have some sort of inner dialogue, that silent conversation you have with yourself about your life, your feelings, your fears, your hopes. I suppose it's technically a monologue, since you are the only one talking inside your brain, but it often feels like a conversation as you go back and forth over the situations and ideas that shape your life.

They say, you are what you eat. It's far more true that you are what you think. What do you think about yourself inside your own mind? Far too often, we say negative or untrue things about ourselves and the situations we face. In the same way, we often think unkind things about other people, and these thoughts – good and bad, true and untrue – end up shaping the way we behave and speak out loud.

Our thought-life can be a place of temptation, where we vent our anger, feed our anxieties, give free reign to selfishness and indulge desires that we hope no one else will ever discover. Our thoughts can also be comforting and joyful. We can experience transcendence inside our hearts in ways too profound to put into spoken words.

God hears it all.

Alongside these inner thoughts are our prayers, those invocations, supplications and adorations that we address to God. You do believe that God hears your thoughts, right? For some, that might be a scary notion, wishing that your private reflections would remain secret, but God does hear it all and we should be grateful.

David felt overwhelmed and blessed to know that God could read his thoughts, as expressed so beautifully in Psalm 139. "You perceive my thoughts from afar," David wrote. "Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely."

At times, David wanted to hide from God, to keep his thoughts from being discerned, but he knew that God always sees, always hears and always cares about us. In the end, David invited God to "test me and know my anxious thoughts."

It's a blessing that the Lord knows us completely and still loves us perfectly. Invite the Spirit to listen to your inner thoughts and prayers. Invite Him also to speak to you. You can hear God's voice in your heart through remembered words of scripture and through the gratitude you feel for past prayers now answered.

Often the Spirit's voice is the one that reminds you of those things you know to be true but struggle to accept. When your inner dialogue sounds like an argument, God's voice is always on the side of truth, love and hope.

Learn to listen to the Spirit and quiet the other ideas and fears. Ask God to teach you how to think about what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8). Invite the Spirit to rule over your heart and your mind so that what you think, feel and believe will be shaped by God's goodness and truth. Then, what flows out of your heart through words and actions will bring honor to Jesus.



Birthdays

- 1 Candice McCulloch
- 4 Charmel Jacobs
- 5 Gladys Anderson
- 6 Jonathan Brown
Laura Mirakian
- 7 Arlene Schweiger
- 8 Megan Woodrow
- 11 Tom Heck
- 12 Jasmine Gasmund
- 13 Judi Papka
- 16 Beth Plomos
- 17 Joan Boettcher
- 22 Kimberly Haase
- 25 Nancy Rainwater
- 26 Linnea Holmertz
Wayne Augenson
- 28 Dillon Melin
- 31 Pam Zollar



Anniversaries

- 23 Philip & Kathy Adams
- 24 Gerald & Christine Bauer

Ladies Nite Out

All women of Broadway are invited to Ladies Nite Out. We will meet at 5:30pm (or whenever you are able to join us) Monday, July 8th at Smokin' Coops. Please let Carolyn or Louise know if you are able to join us. Looking forward to being together.

Serving in July

Counters:

Jon Brown and Bob Schweiger

Head Usher:

Jon Brown

Remember in Prayer

Kathy Knight recovering from surgery.

60 Plus

60 Plus will not meet in July and August.

Mission Report

This month please pray for **Peter and Anna Kim and their children** who serve in **Asia** and **The Haven Network**.


The **Kim's** began serving overseas in 2004. Their teenage children have been a blessing to their ministry. One is very friendly to strangers and is a bridge in helping build relationships. Another joined a prayer group that helps teenagers experience the love and grace of Christ. He teaches English one a week to middle schoolers. And their oldest daughter volunteers with an Awana Club. Please pray for strength, wisdom, and guidance for the whole family as they serve the people of Asia.

“**The Haven Network** is an independent Christian Ministry offering life-affirming services providing emotional, spiritual and practical support for families who have experienced the death of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, ectopic pregnancy, SIDS and early infant death and families who are facing a terminal diagnosis of their preborn baby. Their services are there for grieving families for as long as needed. They start in the hospital by connecting with the family, caring for their baby, creating keepsakes and photographing the baby individually and with his or her family. They continue support for the family with established well checks, in person and online support groups, grief counselling, several special remembrance events through the year and unlimited access to their Share Library. All their services are free to the families. For more information see thehavennetwork.org.



July

S M T W T F S

	1	2 8:30 Morning Prayer	3 7:30 VE prayer & worship	4 	5	6
7 10:15 Worship 11:45 Vida Eterna	8 5:30 Ladies Nite Out at Smokin Coop	9 8:30 Morning Prayer	10 7:30 VE prayer & worship	11	12	13
14 10:15 Worship LT Mtg. 11:45 Vida Eterna	15	16 8:30 Morning Prayer	17 7:30 VE prayer & worship	18	19	20
21 10:15 Worship 11:45 Vida Eterna	22 Messenger news due in the office	23 8:30 Morning Prayer	24 7:30 VE prayer & worship	25	26	27
28 10:15 Worship 11:45 Vida Eterna	29	30 8:30 Morning Prayer	31 7:30 VE prayer & worship			

**July 2024
Broadway Covenant
Church**

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We're on the Web
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