CONSECRATE 40 Hour Prayer Points

PREPARING FOR THIS SEASON

1. Consecrate Ourselves (Joshua 3:5) - Ask God to prepare the hearts of everyone at First North during these 40 hours. May we approach Him with humility, surrender, and an expectation that He will work among us as we seek His face together.

2. Seek God Above the Outcome (Matthew 6:33; Psalm 27:8) - Pray that First North will seek God Himself above all else—not simply the pastor we want or the outcome we prefer. May our greatest desire be to honor Christ and follow His will for our church.

3. Humble Our Hearts (Proverbs 3:5–6; James 4:10) - Ask God to give First North a spirit of humility and surrender. May we lay aside personal preferences and trust His wisdom, believing His plans are better than our own.

4. Thank God for His Faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22–23; Psalm 100:5) - Thank God for His faithfulness to First North through every season and for the people He has used to strengthen our church. May His past faithfulness give us confidence as we enter this new chapter.

5. Celebrate What God Has Done (Psalm 145:4–7; Philippians 1:3–6) - Thank God for the spiritual fruit, relationships, and ministry He has cultivated at First North over the years. Pray that we will carry the lessons of the past forward while remaining open to all God wants to do next.

6. Embrace the New Season (Isaiah 43:18–19; Ecclesiastes 3:1) - Ask God to help First North embrace this season with faith rather than fear. May we honor the past without living in it and look toward the future with confidence in the God who goes before us.

7. Grieve Well and Move Forward (Romans 12:15; Psalm 30:5) - Acknowledge that pastoral transitions can bring both gratitude and sadness. Pray that First North will care for one another well and move forward together in faith, hope, and love.

8. Fix Our Eyes on Christ (Colossians 1:18; Hebrews 12:1–2) - Ask God to keep First North focused on Jesus, the true Head of the church. May we remember that while pastors serve an important role, Christ alone is the foundation and ultimate Shepherd of His people.

9. Pray for Unity at First North (Ephesians 4:1–6, Philippians 2:1-2) - Pray that God will protect the unity of First North throughout this transition. May we remain united in Christ, extending grace to one another and refusing to allow differing opinions or preferences to divide us.

10. Pray for Genuine Love (John 13:34–35; 1 Corinthians 13:4–7) - Ask God to make First North a church known for genuine love for Jesus and for one another. May our conversations, decisions, and relationships reflect the patience, humility, and grace of Christ.

PRAYING FOR OUR LEADERS AND THE SEARCH

11. Thank God for Pastor Mike (1 Thessalonians 5:12–13; Hebrews 13:7) - Thank God for Pastor Mike and the faithful ministry through which He has blessed First North. Pray that Pastor Mike will be encouraged by the spiritual fruit of his ministry and strengthened by knowing that God will continue His work in our church.

12. Pray for Pastor Mike in This Transition (Mark 6:31; Isaiah 40:31) - Ask God to give Pastor Mike a meaningful season of rest and renewal following his final Sunday of preaching. Pray for wisdom and grace as he continues serving in an administrative role, and ask God to bless him and his family in this new chapter.

13. Pray for Our Church Staff (James 1:5; 1 Peter 5:2–3) - Ask God to give the First North staff wisdom, unity, patience, and strength as they continue leading and serving the congregation. May they remain focused on Christ and faithful to the mission God has entrusted to our church.

14. Pray for the Transition Team (Proverbs 15:22; James 3:17) - Pray for every member of the transition/search team. Ask God to give them wisdom, unity, humility, courage, and spiritual discernment as they seek the man He has called to lead First North.

15. Pray for Freedom from Personal Agendas (Philippians 2:3–4; Proverbs 16:2) - Ask God to guard everyone involved in the search from allowing personal preferences or expectations to control the process. May every decision reflect a sincere desire to follow God's direction rather than simply satisfy human opinions.

16. Pray for Spiritual Discernment (Philippians 1:9–10; Hebrews 5:14) - Pray that those evaluating potential pastors will distinguish between what is impressive to people and what is pleasing to God. Give our transition team discernment to recognize the character, calling, and gifts needed to shepherd First North faithfully.

17. Pray for Patience (Psalm 27:14; Isaiah 40:31) - Ask God to help First North wait well. Protect us from the temptation to rush simply because uncertainty is uncomfortable, and teach us to trust Him even when we cannot see how or when the search will conclude.

18. Pray for God's Timing (Ecclesiastes 3:11; Habakkuk 2:3) - Pray that First North will trust God's timing throughout this process. May we resist pressure to move ahead prematurely and have confidence that His wisdom is greater than our understanding.

19. Pray for Closed Doors (Proverbs 16:9; Revelation 3:7) - Ask God to close every door that should be closed, even when a candidate initially appears promising. Give our leaders the courage and discernment to recognize His redirection and follow Him faithfully.

20. Pray for Open Doors and Clear Direction (Psalm 32:8; Colossians 4:3) - Ask God to open the right doors at the right time and guide every conversation, interview, reference, and decision. May the search for First North's next pastor be marked by prayer, integrity, and clear direction.

PRAYING FOR THE MAN GOD IS PREPARING

21. Pray for His Calling (1 Timothy 3:1; 2 Timothy 1:8–9) - Ask God to prepare the man He has called to shepherd First North. Wherever he is today, pray that the Lord will make his calling clear and guide him toward the ministry He has prepared for him.

22. Pray for His Character (1 Timothy 3:1–7; Titus 1:5–9) - Pray that our future pastor will possess the godly character described in Scripture—integrity, humility, self-control, faithfulness, and spiritual maturity. May his character be as compelling as his gifts and abilities.

23. Pray for His Love for Jesus (John 21:15–17; John 3:30) - Ask God to make Jesus Christ the supreme love and passion of our future pastor. May he lead First North toward a deeper love for Christ, always remembering that the church belongs to Jesus and not to any human leader.

24. Pray for His Love for God's Word (2 Timothy 4:1–2; Titus 1:9) - Pray that our future pastor will deeply love Scripture, faithfully proclaim it, and courageously teach the whole counsel of God. May God's Word shape his preaching, leadership, and daily life.

25. Pray for His Shepherd's Heart (John 10:11; 1 Peter 5:2–4) - Ask God to give our future pastor a genuine love for people and a heart to shepherd, encourage, correct, protect, and care for God's flock. May he lead with compassion, courage, humility, and sacrificial love.

26. Pray for His Family (1 Timothy 3:4–5; Joshua 24:15) - Pray for the future pastor's wife and family. Ask God to protect their marriage, strengthen their relationships, and prepare them for the unique blessings and challenges of ministry at First North.

27. Pray for His Courage (Acts 20:27; 2 Timothy 4:2) - Ask God to give our future pastor the courage to preach biblical truth faithfully, even when it is difficult or unpopular. May he lead with conviction while showing the grace and compassion of Christ.

28. Pray for His Humility (1 Peter 5:5–6; Philippians 2:3–8) - Pray that our future pastor will lead with humility, remembering that First North belongs to Christ. May he be a servant-leader who welcomes godly counsel, values others, and seeks God's glory above his own.

29. Pray for His Preparation (Ephesians 2:10; 2 Timothy 2:21) - Wherever this man is today, ask God to prepare him spiritually, personally, and practically for the ministry He has planned for him. Pray that his experiences and present responsibilities will help equip him for the work ahead.

30. Pray for God's Providence (Romans 8:28; Psalm 139:16) - Thank God that He knows the man who will serve as First North's next pastor, even though we do not yet know who he is. Pray that God will guide the circumstances, relationships, and decisions that bring this man and our congregation together in His time.

PREPARING FIRST NORTH FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER

31. CONNECT: Connect People to God (John 15:4–5; 2 Corinthians 5:18–20) - Pray that First North will remain passionate about connecting people to God through Jesus Christ. Ask God to prepare our next pastor to help us deepen our relationship with Christ and reach those who have not yet experienced the hope of the gospel.

32. CONNECT: Build Meaningful Relationships (Acts 2:42–47; Hebrews 10:24–25) - Ask God to strengthen the relationships within First North so that people find genuine community, encouragement, and belonging through Jesus Christ. May we become increasingly intentional about connecting people to one another and helping them walk together in faith.

33. GROW: Deepen Our Relationship with Christ (Colossians 2:6–7; Ephesians 4:13–15) - Pray that God will use this transition to deepen the spiritual maturity of First North. May we grow through Scripture, prayer, worship, and obedience, becoming more rooted in our relationship with Jesus.

34. GROW: Become More Like Jesus (Romans 12:1–2; Galatians 5:22–23) - Ask God to shape our congregation so that our lives increasingly reflect Christ. Pray that our next pastor will faithfully equip believers to grow in holiness, love, wisdom, and obedience to God's Word.

35. SERVE: Use Our Gifts for Others (1 Peter 4:10–11; Ephesians 2:10) - Pray that First North will be a church where believers recognize and use the gifts God has given them to serve others in Jesus' name. Ask God to raise up willing servants who faithfully minister within our church and beyond it.

36. SERVE: Reach Our Community with the Gospel (Matthew 9:36–38; Matthew 28:18–20) - Ask God to give First North a renewed burden for our community and for those who do not know Jesus. Pray that we will faithfully serve others, share the gospel, make disciples, and demonstrate Christ's love in practical ways.

SURRENDERING THE FUTURE

37. Prepare Us to Receive Our Next Pastor (Philippians 2:1–4; Hebrews 13:17) - Ask God to prepare the congregation of First North to receive and support the man He provides. May we be humble, teachable, gracious, and ready to follow godly leadership as we work together in the mission God has given us.

38. Renew Our Commitment to Our Mission (Philippians 1:27; Ephesians 4:11–16) - Pray that First North will remain firmly committed to our calling: CONNECT people to God and one another through Jesus Christ, help them GROW in their relationship with Him, and equip them to SERVE others in His name. May a change in pastoral leadership strengthen rather than distract us from this mission.

39. Surrender Our Fears and Preferences (Luke 22:42; Proverbs 3:5–6) - Lay before God every fear, expectation, and personal preference concerning First North's future. Pray that we will trust His wisdom, surrender our own agendas, and follow wherever He leads—even when His plans differ from our expectations.

40. CONSECRATE: Surrender the Next Chapter (Joshua 3:5; Proverbs 16:3) - “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.” As these 40 hours conclude, surrender First North, our leaders, our pastor search, and our future completely to the Lord. Ask God to go before us and faithfully lead us into the next chapter, trusting Him to accomplish His purposes for His glory.