Downtown Walking Prayer Guide – Cultural District

Jonah 4:11: Should I not be concerned about that great city?
Jeremiah 29:7: Seek the peace and prosperity of the city… Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.
Matthew 5:14: You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

Directions: This short prayer walk will lead you towards the outskirts of the city and back to the church in about 20-25 minutes. You don’t need to stop and close your eyes. In fact, look around as you pray. You can pray either silently or out loud. Remember this is only a guide. Feel free to take detours as the Spirit leads you. Pray for the people you see. Pray that God would show you who and what to pray for. Consider people who seem homeless or hungry. Do you see single mothers with small children? As you become aware of people and needs around you, pray that First Church might be effective in its ministries in the heart of the city.

Go out through the Narthex of the church and walk down the steps onto Sixth Avenue. Look across the street and see the Duquesne Club. Stop and pray for the Club and its members. Many are leaders of business, government, and industry in our city. Pray that God would prosper those businesses.

Turn left and walk towards Wood Street. Cross Wood Street and continue on Sixth Avenue to the corner of Liberty Avenue. Look straight ahead and see Midtown Towers. Pause and pray for all of those living in the city.

Carefully cross Liberty Avenue and continue onto 7th Street. As you walk towards Fort Duquesne Blvd and the river, look around as you walk through the cultural district. The Benedum Center is across the street to your right; Theatre Square is on your left. Pray for those who work in the arts in Pittsburgh. For the many visitors to the city who travel here just for the arts, pray that they will see our city as more than a place for the arts but also as a place to serve the Lord.

You are also passing the Agnes R. Katz Plaza on the left where many people sit to rest, read, greet/meet one another, wait for or arrive by bus to take them in/out of the city. Pray for their safety and that their purpose for being here is met.

Continue walking until you reach Fort Duquesne Blvd and turn left. Look across the river and pray for those who live on the North Side of Pittsburgh. On the North Shore you can see ALCOA, FNB, and PNC Park. Pray for our sports teams to play for the enjoyment of the sport; pray for the fans that travel to the city to support the players. Pray for all who have employment and that the companies will thrive and prosper for years to come. Pray for the owners, boards of directors and officers. Pray that these and all companies in the city will stay in the city and will stay involved in the life of Pittsburgh.

Walk a long block to 6th Street praying along the way for all of those who pass you walking, in cars and public transportation. Cross the street at 6th and turn left. The Renaissance Hotel is on your left and eateries are on your left and right. Pray that the visitors to the city will be safe, enjoy their trip to Pittsburgh and when they leave, they will share their good experience to draw others here.

When you reach Penn Avenue cross the street to Starbucks and turn right. Pray for the workers and customers of Starbucks, a place where the employees always greet you with a smile and where so many people sit to relax, read or meet one another. Pray as you are passing Quest
Diagnostics and Highmark that the needs for those they serve will be met. Pray for those who enter QD to have tests done will feel the Lord’s comfort and peace when they enter. Pray for whatever the test results are that the Lord’s will be done.

As you walk around the outside of 5th Avenue Place pray for the many businesses that call this building home. Pray for the many employers and employees and that the needs of their customers will be met.

Turn left on to Stanwix and walk to the next corner. If you were continuing up Stanwix Street and on to the Blvd of the Allies (not today) you would see the following places to pray for: St. Mary of Mercy Church, the Diocese of Pittsburgh, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and Fire Company No. 1. Pray for all of these places as they seek to serve people in and around the city who need help with their daily living – finances, housing, clothing, protection as well as prayer. Pray that the Lord will help each individual working/volunteering in these places to continue to have the resources available to help others in need.

Now turn to your left and walk one block on Wood Street, PNC Bank is on your left in Fifth Avenue Place. Pray for the financial stability of the banks in the city. Turn right to cross at the intersection of 5th and Liberty Avenues. Continue your walk traveling 5th Avenue. As you walk, you are walking towards the government buildings of the City of Pittsburgh. Pray for all who work for our city, county and federal governments. Pray that the decisions that are made in these places are fair to all people they serve. Pray for the safety of those who work in all phases and levels of our government.

Walk to Wood Street and turn left. The PNC Building is on the left; GNC Headquarters is on the right. Pray for all financial banks and companies in this city. Pray that their leadership will not falter; that they will be honest and continue to serve the city with their finances. Pray that the Pittsburgh Promise will thrive and grow as they promise to financially help the youth of our city attend colleges. Pray for our city colleges and the thousands of individuals working and learning in these places that their gifts/talents will be used to benefit the city and the world. Pray that PNC and GNC will have a huge volunteer presence in and around our city.

At 6th Avenue turn right and walk back to the church. Pray for all of the children and youth of our city that they will be kept safe from harm and that one day each and every one of them will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Pray for the Cellar ministry, that it will thrive and make believers out of all who attend so that one day each teen will be another disciple to go out into the world to share the Good News.

Pray as you reenter our church. Pray for all who enter here that their spiritual needs will be met; that their hearts will be filled by the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray for the members, staff and leadership of our church that we will have the gifts to offer all in need, including each other, and that FPCP will continue to reach out into our community in the heart of this great city of God.