And You Shall Call Him …
Major Dr. Corinne Cameron '23

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Week 1: Wonderful Counselor

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins. (Isaiah 11:1-5)

All knowing God, you are our counselor. You provide us with your word to help us discern your thoughts. You raise up wonderful teachers who open new insights with fresh ideas. You teach through the wisdom of nature, modeling the rhythm of rest and creativity. Help us notice all of the ways you counsel us. Soften our hearts for your truths to nestle deep within. Mold our minds to receive, ponder, and deepen in an awareness of you. Forgive us for the way we cling to the illusion of control that causes us to think we always 'know best.' In you we discover the gift of counsel, a deep wisdom that only comes from you. Amen.

Week 2: Mighty God

For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe (Deut. 10:17)

Mighty God, today's scripture proclaims you are the God of gods and the Lord of lords. You are almighty! Your name promises us that you are more powerful than our largest problems. Your love is deeper than our deepest fear. In the thickets that choke our every step, you provide a way. Forgive us

for how we try and live life in our own strength. Forgive us for how we want to be god of our own lives. Help us let go of the tight grasp with which we hold every worry … and trust … breathe … claim your might. We surrender our cares to you today, our mighty God. Amen.

Week 3: Everlasting Father

Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God. (Psalm 90:1-2)

Everlasting Father, thank you for being our home, a safe place in which we may dwell. Thank you for protecting us in the middle of our storms in life and waiting for us with outstretched arms each time we have strayed. Your Bible provides us with fatherhood images of fierce, protective, and loving strength. Sadly, this is not always our human experience. As we read these verses, help us turn to you to redeem this name. Help us find your loving comfort, that we may trust you, and indeed find a safe place in which we may dwell. Amen.

Week 4: Prince of Peace

Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace,
in peace because they trust in you. (Isaiah 26:3)

Loving God, you promise to keep us in perfect peace if only we trust in you. You are our Prince of Peace. You are our peace. We surrender to you the peace-stealers of our lives: frantic schedules, mindless scrolling, unrealistic to-do lists, competitive relationships, the tyranny of the urgent … Help us realize that just as our hearts beat to a steady rhythm, our lives may also find this peaceful heartbeat as we rest and rely on you. Help us not be driven by named, and unnamed, peace-stealers, but instead help us surrender the lists, relationships, and schedules to you. May our frenzied heartbeats be transformed into ones 'whose pulse is your praise.' Amen.