

## January — A Prayer of Trust and Surrender

*Proverbs 3:5–6*

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not rely on your own insight.  
In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make straight your paths.”*

### **Gracious and faithful God,**

We come before you knowing that the church is not ours, but yours.  
Before any search begins, before any names are considered,  
we place this congregation, its history, and its future into your hands.

Release us, O God, from anxiety and from the need to control outcomes.  
Free us from fear about the future and from nostalgia that binds us to the past.  
Teach us again to trust that you are already at work,  
preparing both this congregation and the one you will call to serve among us.

Help us to wait with patience, to listen with humility,  
and to rest in the promise that your Spirit goes before us.  
As we begin this journey, root us deeply in prayer,  
that everything we do may flow from faith rather than fear.

We offer this season to you, trusting your wisdom and timing,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**