Prelude to Prayer:

You can’t argue someone into faith or into the kingdom of God. Only God can draw people by the Spirit to faith in Jesus Christ. On the other hand, Christians can join in the ancient and rich tradition—2,000-plus years strong—of Christians articulating and making sense of their faith, giving reasons for “the hope that [they] have” (1 Pet. 3:15). Joella Ranaivoson, Calvin College

**1 Timothy 3:14-16**

**14**Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, **15**if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God’s household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. **16**Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great:

He appeared in the flesh,
    was vindicated by the Spirit,[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+3&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29748d)]
was seen by angels,
    was preached among the nations,
was believed on in the world,
    was taken up in glory.

* Father, there is something in the human spirit that craves mystery. We have so many books, shows and movies that are dedicated to them, but what we are really seek are the answers to Your mysteries. To know You and become like You is our greatest desire. Help us find the answers that we are looking for in Your Word. Give us a craving to want as much of You as we possibly can.
* Lord, sometimes we have questions that can be answered by only You. Hard questions that keep us up at night. Sometimes we are afraid of what the answers will be because it might hurt, either us or a loved one. Give us the courage to ask anyway. Help us remember that You will be with us through the whole journey. I need help right now with…
* Father, thank you for our leaders at FACC that are helping us through the mysteries of life in Fairbanks. Give them wisdom, knowledge, and strength of character to lead us in our daily walk. Thank you especially for…
* Lord, I pray for our youth. They have so much ahead of them that we can’t foresee. Keep them grounded in the faith, and please help them stay focused on their walk with You. Help them to look to You whenever temptation comes their way. Give them good friends in the faith to help them stay on the right path.
* Father, I ask that you be with Loren and Glenda Anderson, and Beverly Grimmett as they are dealing with health problems. Be with the doctors that are handling their care and be with their families during this time. Give them all strength and courage to do what needs to be done.
* Lord, in Proverbs 3:5-6, You tell us: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.* We are relying on Your word and promises as we follow Your paths.

It is in Your son’s name we pray. Amen