



## Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

Adopted from *The Lutheran Service Book* (p. 294)

**May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 A.D. – The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*This brief service is intended as a simple form of daily prayer for individuals and families. When more than one person is present, responsive readings may be used. The Creed and Prayers that are in bold type are to be said by all.*

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Opening Psalm    *Psalm 68:1-10* (A Psalm of David)

<sup>1</sup> God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him!

<sup>2</sup> **As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God!**

<sup>3</sup> But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy!

<sup>4</sup> **Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the LORD; exult before him!**

<sup>5</sup> Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

<sup>6</sup> **God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.**

<sup>7</sup> O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup> **the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup> Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad; you restored your inheritance as it languished;

<sup>10</sup> **your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.**

*For those with access to the internet, you may now play today's worship video, located on Bethany's website ([www.bethanycr.org](http://www.bethanycr.org)) under the Worship Resources tab and then continue with the Apostles' Creed. Everyone else may continue the service as printed....*

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### Scripture Lesson – John 17:1-11

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup>“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. <sup>8</sup>For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

**Sermon** – † *No Cross, No Glory* † (A copy is included at the end of this service.)

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### **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**



**I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life † everlasting. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**



**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass  
against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and  
ever. Amen.**

### **Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

#### **Bethany's Prayer List**

Thanks to God for those who have sacrificed for our country; Those suffering during the pandemic; the homeless; the unemployed; our medical professionals and first responders; workers in the Church, here and throughout the world; Izzy (granddaughter of Mary Nanke) - *Recovering after illness*; Mary Lou (mother of Becky Thur) - *Upcoming surgery on 5/26*; Barb (friend of Pat Krekeler) - *Health issues*, Ron Prescott - *Upcoming eye surgery on 6/4*, Jill (daughter of Dick & Karen Hass) - *recovering after surgery*; Joyce Fritz - *recovering after*

*hospitalization; Zoe (granddaughter of Mary Nanke) - recovering after cornea transplant; Shirley Deetz - recovering at home after hospitalization; Richard Pfeil - recovering at home after hospitalization; Bev Linman - recovering from illness, Dave Christian - recovering after hospitalization; Bonnie Bubke - recovery of strength; John Hamm - recovering after surgery; Kris Dunn - health issues; Brenda Heims - recovering after surgery; Betty Hein - recovering at home; Stephanie Macke - recovering after radiation treatments; Nadine Wax - recovering at home; Al Bachman - cancer; Rollis Deetz- at home; Ronda Anderson- mourning the death of a friend, Ashley; Doug & Sheryl Knutson- mourning the death of a relative, Connie; Steve Hanchera - mourning the death of his father, DeWayne; Rebecca Ballstaedt - mourning the death of her father, Dwight; Pat Krekeler - mourning the death of a friend, Bob; Tina Freese - mourning the death of her mother, MaryEllen; Rob Willms - mourning the death of his mother, Jeanette, Family and friends of Shirley Hansen - Died 4/29; Amanda Segebart - mourning the death of her grandfather, Harold; Taylor & Charlie (grandsons of Kim Neuhaus) – serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.*

### **Collect of the Day**

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Concluding Prayers**

Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and completed all things, on this day when the work of our calling begins anew, we implore You to create its beginning, direct its continuance, and bless its end, that our doings may be preserved from sin, our lives sanctified, and our work this day be pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

Together we pray... **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that you would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



✠ *No Cross, No Glory* ✠

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

If Jesus were to ask you to make Him a Facebook page and start Him a Twitter account, what would put on them? I asked myself this because in our text today we hear Jesus talking about “glory”, that is being recognized for something great that has been done or a great characteristic or attribute. And I think that most people want to have some level of glory in their lives. Most people want to be recognized for what they have done or the work that they do or the kind of person they are. But while we all want glory on some level, how we get that glory seems to have changed.

When I was a small boy I was convinced I would achieve great glory by being a soldier or an astronaut. As I grew up, I was convinced that glory awaited me on the soccer field or the running track. But as I continued on in life, I realized my dreams of outer space would go unfulfilled and whatever recognition I had received from scoring goals or running around in circles quickly faded. So wear is glory to be found now? I think that for me, and for many people today, there is a temptation for glory to found on social media.

Just think about what kind of things that people usually post on their social media accounts. When Facebook and Twitter were new, it was mostly what was happening in people’s lives or something about a good movie they had seen or a meal that they had. But then on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 something happened that not only changed social media, but also the way people look for recognition and glory – on that day Facebook added the “Like” button to its’ pages. Twitter followed in November of that year with an equally monumental addition – the “Retweet” icon, something that Facebook quickly copied.

What these two features had done, is essentially made what was once private communication between friends, a message that could be put in front of the world. And not only that, it also lets our communication be judged by that same world. After all, when I post something on Facebook someone may “like” it. Or they could “share” it. Maybe enough people would do that so my post can go “viral”! So now “likes” and “retweets” and “shares” become an important part of being recognized today. An important way of achieving some form of glory.

But there has always been danger in running after glory, there’s a real danger for seeking online today. First, when we only become concerned about how many people will “like” what we post or say, that desire for that kind of glory can easily shape what we say or even force us to pretend to be someone we’re not. We’re afraid that if we’re honest, no one may “like” not just what we say, but maybe even not like us.

Secondly, knowing that the world can be looking at what we post and judging it, we tend to glorify ourselves. I remember when we wanted to put a picture of the sanctuary on one of the church’s social media platforms, I said we needed to find a picture of Easter when the sanctuary was full of people. This way everyone would see what a vibrant congregation we are. Never mind the fact that if anyone ever came to Bethany on a Sunday other than Easter they wouldn’t normally see nearly that number of people that were in that picture. So, in way, we almost were deceiving or lying to them so that we could look good or glorify ourselves.

So, how would you make Jesus’s Facebook page or run His Tweeter account? Under the general information we might put down that He was born in Bethlehem, lived in Egypt and Nazareth. Under the education, we’d mention that His step-father was a carpenter and learned that trade from Him. Jobs would be a little harder. There was that brief teaching stint He did in

the temple when He was 12. And we could just put “Messiah”, but He also is our prophet, priest, and king. Thankfully Life Events would be easy. We could just say, “See Second Article of the Apostles’ Creed!”

But once all that information was down, we would have to start posting or tweeting things about Jesus. And if we were to do that like a normal social media account, we would surely want to post all of the miracles Jesus had done. Put up a selfie of Jesus in the wilderness with the caption, “Just got done resisting Satan’s temptations! Can’t wait for angels to come with pretzel bites from #pub217!” Then maybe a group selfie with the 5000 He fed or with the disciples on a calm lake after a storm. We would want to post some tweets from His teachings, but remember, nothing too controversial because we want “likes” and “retweets”. This is how the world would think that Jesus would become popular. How He would be liked! Become glorified by people today!

And make no mistake about it, Jesus does want to be glorified. We see this clearly in our text from John 17 today. In the first five verses, Jesus mentions glory, or being glorified, or giving glory 5 times! But here, in what is known as Jesus’ High Priestly Prayer, the glory that Jesus is praying for is not found in the things that the world glorifies. It’s not about Him looking good or doing amazing miracles. It’s not what you would likely find on anyone’s Facebook page or Twitter account today. Rather the glory of Jesus comes from His Heavenly Father, Who in turn has glory by giving eternal life. Jesus prays to His Father in Heaven in John 17:1-2 saying, “*Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him*”. Here, the hour has come for Jesus to lay down His life on the cross and because this deed is as good as done, God is glorified. This is why Jesus has been given all authority in heaven and on earth. It wasn’t to glorify Himself. Or even the Father directly. Jesus has come to give us eternal life, with the result of God being glorified. And this eternal life is to know God and to know Jesus. To know God as the One who sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. For the forgiveness of all the times we lie and deceive others about who we are or what we have done, so that they might like us. For all of the times when we proudly boast in our own accomplishments, trying to glorify ourselves.

Therefore, if we were to make a Facebook page for Jesus the way that He would want it, it would glorify Him, but not the way the world glorifies itself. There wouldn’t be any posts about His great miracles or mighty deeds. Instead there would be a picture of you. But not just any old picture of you, but one of you as a sinner who has been given eternal life. And being that God gives us eternal life through knowing Him, we would also see the cross. For there, on the cross when He suffered and died for our forgiveness, Jesus revealed God’s love for all people, including you and me. Thanks be to God, that this is who He is and His glory does not just belong to Christ Jesus, but benefits all of us who have faith in Him. Amen.

