



# Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

**October 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 A.D. – Reformation Sunday**

*This brief service is intended as a simple form of daily prayer for individuals and families. When more than one person is present, the psalm and responses may be spoken responsively, with one person reading the words in regular type and the others responding with the words in bold type. 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.**

## Psalm

*(Psalm 46)*

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,  
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

<sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

<sup>4</sup> **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

<sup>6</sup> **The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

<sup>8</sup> **Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

<sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

**he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.**

<sup>10</sup> “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

<sup>11</sup> **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

*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 8:31-36)*

<sup>31</sup> So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,<sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”<sup>33</sup> They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

*There is no printed sermon this week as Pastor Hedtke is filling for Pastor Erickson while he takes a few days of vacation this weekend. You may, however, find a note from Pastor Erickson at the end of this resource.*

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## **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.**

### **Bethany’s Prayer List**

Those suffering after the storm and during the pandemic  
The homeless & the unemployed  
Dee Rose- hospice care at Meth-Wick nursing facility  
Workers in the Church, here at Bethany and throughout the world

### **Thanksgiving**

Darin Elm & Maren Hopkins - married 10/24

### **Healing**

Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders – Health Issues  
Nancy (mother of Carolyn Sternowski)- recovering after broken hip

Kristi Montague- recovering after second eye surgery  
Darrel Peterson (father of Janet Hoech)- life sustaining cancer treatment  
Kent Zenor- recovering after second eye surgery  
Darlene Eckert- recovering after broken leg  
Aaron Moffett- recovering after eye surgery  
Jeff, Angela & Wes Keslar- recovering after COVID-19  
Dave Christian - recovering after surgery  
Kris Dunn - health issues

### **Shut-Ins**

Candi Engel- Garnet Place

### **Mourning**

Linda Patten- mourning the death of her brother, Steve's death on 10/17

Deetz family- mourning the death of Rollis on 10/14

### **Serving Our Country**

Taylor & Charlie (grandsons of Kim Neuhaus) – serving in the U.S. Armed Forces

### **Collect of the Day**

Let us pray... Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in time of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

### **Concluding Prayers**

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**



Members and Friends of Bethany,

This Sunday (October 25) Protestant Churches around the world are observing Reformation Sunday. Reformation Day is actually October 31, the anniversary of Martin Luther posting his 95 Theses against the practice of selling indulgences in 1517. But as few churches gather for worship services on days other than Sundays, most designate the last day in October as Reformation Sunday. And while some may wonder why we would want to remember something that happened over 500 years ago, and on a different continent no less, the main lesson of the Reformation is something that is still relevant to all Christians, perhaps more so this year than ever.

To be sure, there are many issues that came to light with the movement that Luther started in 1517. As mentioned above his 95 Theses addressed the issue of selling indulgences, the idea that one could pay money to shorten the time they or loved ones would spend in the fictitious purgatory. Simony, or the buying of church offices, was another topic addressed by the reformers, as was the authority of the papacy and church tradition, the role monks and nuns in the church, and of course the doctrine of justification through faith alone. These, and other issues, were hotly debated during the Reformation for years, even decades following the death of Martin Luther. But behind all of these was the one issue that we must remember today – the power of God’s Word.

The Bible (God’s Word), was the primary tool of the Holy Spirit to guide the Church during the Reformation. For centuries the Church had become confused by the opinions of men and various traditions. But as Luther and others began to rediscover the teachings of the Scriptures, the light of the Gospel became clearer and clearer. This light not only showed them their Savior and their salvation, it also helped the reformers navigate the complex political, religious, and socio-economic landscape of their time. After all, as Jesus says in John 8, “*If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*” With the truth of God’s Word, the Lutheran Reformers were able to declare God’s grace and forgiveness in Christ, and live freely as His disciples.

Today, none of us should be surprised that as the world, the devil, or even our own sinful flesh seeks to dim the light of the Gospel, we find ourselves being thrown deeper and deeper into a hole of chaos and misunderstanding. We may live in what is has been called *The Information Age*, but where has all that information taken us? Has the ability to create and consume so much information, (as well as misinformation), destroyed the shared reality that allowed us to engage with one another, find solutions to complex problems, and find comfort during dark times?

I believe the answer is “yes”. Therefore, as the Reformers rediscovered the truth of the Gospel in God’s Word, we ourselves would do well to follow their example and hear Jesus’ Words once again ourselves. Discipleship and God’s Word are linked together, so let all of us who follow Jesus continue to stay in the Word. The Spirit uses this Word to create and sustain life-giving faith. But the truth of God’s Word will also help us to live freely in a world that is becoming increasingly more complicated and chaotic. This is challenging to do, even in the best of times. But working together as a congregation and taking advantage of all the resources that God has provided, we can have confidence that God will always forgive us and set us free to live as His people.

*Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum*  
*(The Word of the Lord endures forever)*  
✠ Pastor Erickson