

<u>Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families</u> Adopted from *The Lutheran Service Book (p. 294)*

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost – September 5th, 2021 A.D.

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 other parts of the service 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 146)

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

- ² I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
 - ³ Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
- ⁴ When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.
- ⁵ Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,
- ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;
- ⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;
- ⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.
- ⁹ The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
- 10 The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

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

Scripture Lesson – Mark 7:24-37

²⁴From there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. ²⁵But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophoenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

<u>Sermon</u> – \dotplus *Doing All Things Well* \dotplus (A copy is included at the end of this service.)

The Nicene' Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man:

> and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. 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

Thanksgiving

- Labor Day

Entrusting into God's Care

- Richard (relative of Carol Grimminger) leukemia
- Ray (father of Deb Mills) hospice care
- Persecuted Christians and refugees
- Those suffering after the storm and during the pandemic
- The homeless & the unemployed
- Workers in the Church, at Bethany and throughout the World

Healing

- Austin (grandson of Fran Struck) terminal cancer
- Dipak (friend of Greg Dunn) hospitalization
- Dennis (friend of Pete Larson) health issues
- Bonnie Bubke recovering after oral surgery
- Velma Ziesemer recovering after surgery
- Ed Schumacher shoulder injury
- Kim Neuhaus recovering after surgery
- Nancy Owens recovery after surgery
- Dale Stonewall recovering at home after surgery
- Faye Sieck health issues

Shut-Ins

- Wayne Schilling - Linn Manor Care Center, Marion

Mourning

- Erma (mother of Rita Tiedt) died 8/30
- Carl (brother of Leonard Tiedt) died 8/19
- Larry (brother of Ben Mims) died 8/17

Serving Our Country

- Ben serving in the Iowa National Guard
- Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of Schoens & Amy Smith)- serving in the U.S. Navy
- Tailor & Charlie (grandsons of Kim Neuhaus) serving in U.S. Armed Forces
- Harrison (son of Rob & Faye Sieck)- serving in U.S. Armed Forces

Collect of the Day

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; 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.



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

Amen.

Looking at our Scripture lesson for today, it's safe to assume that Jesus would not have fit in with today's attention seeking culture. Rather than seeking the attention and the accolades of the crowds, we find Jesus doing quite the opposite. He enters into a house and doesn't want anyone

to know that He is there. He takes the deaf and mute man off to the side, away from the crowd, before healing him. Then after the miracle, Jesus does not encourage everyone to tell as many people as they can what had happened. Rather, He tells those who did witness the miracle not to tell anyone. This all seems very strange to us today – why would He perform a miracle in private and then tell them not to tell anyone about it? Why not do everything possible to people know what He is doing? But as we can see, Jesus isn't concerned about the crowds and His popularity at this point in His ministry. He is concerned about the one – the one man who could not speak. The one girl possessed by a demon.

Like this, Jesus is so different from most people today, when everyone wants to be famous or everyone wants to be heard. But our Lord sought to go away to a quiet place with His disciples, only to find the people had gone ahead of them and beaten them there. Rather than turning the crowds away though, Jesus has compassion on them. He shows that compassion to the woman and her daughter; the same compassion to the deaf man with a speech impediment, showing that Jesus is always concerned for His people whether they are hungry in a large crowd or suffering alone.

This is because Jesus is always the same person. He is the same in private as He is in the public eye. He is just as concerned for the bleeding woman as He is for the daughter of the synagogue ruler. He's the same Jesus when He's alone with Peter, James, and John as when He's with the thousands who ate the loaves of bread and fish. He's the same Jesus when soldiers strike Him and when the criminals insult Him. As we read in Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Therefore Jesus' concern for the people in our text this morning is also His concern for each one of us today. The one who touched the unclean and associated with the tax collectors, prostitutes, and even the Gentiles is concerned for you and the hurts and pain that you bear in your life. The One who healed the deaf comes to you with mercy and love to forgive and restore you. He still comes to open ears and release tongues, and He sets us free through the baptismal water and the power of His Word. He's concerned for the one who's held in bondage to addiction and the one who's been broken by guilt. Through the forgiving word of Absolution, He still frees those who are held captive by their past. What a comfort this is for those who feel forgotten or alone. There are certainly crowds who are amazed by Jesus during His earthly ministry, but this reading from Mark reminds us that His larger concern is for each and every person.

After Jesus restored the Syrophoenician woman's daughter and the deaf and mute man, the people around Him made the obvious statement, "He does all things well." Of course He does all things well, because He is God! That is the type of Lord and Savior that we have – one that does all things well, for the salvation of the sinner. From obeying His parents to submitting to the law of the land, Jesus does what He must and what He should, so that each person can be saved. As a teacher, He teaches His listeners what is good, right, and true. As King, He shows mercy to the least and to the lowest. As our Savior, He comes to rescue all those who are lost and forgotten. Therefore, wherever He goes, He does what is good and pleasing to His heavenly Father. He always submits to the Father's will, which we know is a good and gracious will.

And He doesn't stop doing all things well. He did it right up to the end as He cried out from the cross, "It is finished". He had completed the work of His redemption and re-creation, and looking back over what He had done, He declared that His work was complete and that it was good. He still keeps on doing good as He strengthens the weak and comforts the sorrowful and shows mercy to the forsaken and forgiveness to the repentant.

We need to be regularly reminded that Christ Jesus does all things well. When we suffer all sorts of hardships and difficulties, our Lord is still doing all things well. When the treatments do not bring the healing for which we prayed, our Lord still continues to do all things well as He grants grace and strength to endure the suffering. When we look around the world and see violence and terror, hunger and disease, we are comforted in knowing that Jesus is still doing all things well. He continues to accomplish His good and gracious will as His Word is proclaimed, as sinners repent and come to faith and salvation, and as the saints of God serve in their daily vocations wherever it is that He calls them.

Seeing evil in the world does not mean that Jesus Christ is not doing all things well anymore. On the contrary, in this evil world, He continues to break and hinder the plans of the devil and the world as He carries out good through His holy ones wherever and however they serve. But Jesus also does things well when He shows you your own sins and your own rebellion against Him. He does all things well as you are called to repentance and as He forgives you all your sins for the sake of His death and resurrection.

May this loving kindness and concern bring comfort and peace to all of us as we endure suffering in this world. And may we remember all of this and as we look forward to Jesus' final good work – the resurrection of all the dead, when He will come in glory and bring us to be with God in paradise forever. Amen.

