



Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

November 14, 2021 A.D.

The 25th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Mark 13 & Psalm 48

The one who endures to the end will be saved.

Let Mount Zion be glad!

Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your judgments!

**Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers,
consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels,
that you may tell the next generation that this is God,
our God forever and ever.**

He will guide us forever.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

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

(Daniel 12:1-3)

¹“At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. ²And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

Sermon – *(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

- Milestones Bible Blessing
- Veterans that have served our country
- Ed Schumacher - recovering from shoulder injury

Entrusting into God's 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

- John (brother of Pat Krekeler) - hospitalization
- Mary Jane Hedtke - health issues
- Lee Rathje - broken wrist, recovering after fall
- Sharon Ramsey - recovering after surgery
- Faye Sieck - recovering after hospitalization
- Dale Stonewall - recovering at home after surgery

Shut-Ins

- Darlene Eckert - at home

Mourning

- Steve (friend of Pete Larson) - died 11/6
- Roland (brother of Bonnie Breiholz) - died 10/30
- Dorothy (aunt of Karen Pfeffer) - died 10/29

Serving Our Country

- Ben - serving in the Iowa National Guard
- Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of Schoens & Amy Smith)- serving in the U.S. Navy
- Taylor & 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

Let us pray... O Lord, by Your bountiful goodness release us from the bonds of our sins, which by reason of our weakness we have brought upon ourselves, that we may stand firm until the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, 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.

Our Scripture Lesson today is only three short verses, but those verses are packed with information of great interest for most Christians. For instance, the text itself is what one in the likeness of a man spoke to the prophet Daniel. This has raised the question of the identity of this “man”, with the most accepted answer being Jesus – over 500 years before He was born in the Bethlehem. Also, in Daniel 12:1 we come across Michael, who is one of only two good angels that are named in the entire Bible, and the only one identified as an Archangel. Later on in that same verse, we also come across the Book of Life. We are told that everyone whose name is written in this book will be delivered from the time of trouble. And in verse two, we have what is perhaps the clearest teaching of the resurrection of all the dead in the entire Old Testament. The preincarnate Christ tells Daniel, “*And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.*” But as interesting, and important as all of these things are, there is something even more important for all of us in our text today.

First, we need to remember that the Book of Daniel is a book about struggles, battles, and war. Daniel arises at a time when God’s people are taken into exile in the land of Babylon, a thousand miles away from their home in Israel. The first six chapters of the book are the history of God’s people as they were taken and lived in this foreign land. Here we find that Daniel became an advisor to King Nebuchadnezzar by interpreting the king’s dream. We also read how he also thrown into a den of lions for continuing to pray to the true God. His friends, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown into a fiery furnace for not bowing down to an idol. But the true God, the Ancient of Days, was with His people as they fought their battles against the old evil foe and the world around them. So God delivered Daniel out of the lion’s den and his friends out of the fiery furnace.

The second part of the book of Daniel moves on from history, to describe more battles that God's people would fight in the future. These chapters are prophetic and most of these prophecies are highly symbolic – picture language, if you will, that we also see in the books of Revelation and Ezekiel. Here in this part of Daniel we see strange creatures, symbolic numbers, and battles taking place between the spiritual forces of heaven and hell. Our text today, describes the last spiritual battle that will take place.

We read in verse 1, “*And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time*”. Reading this reminds us that we need to stop thinking that as Christians, things will always go well for us in this life, because it simply is not true. Jesus tells us in the Gospels that in the world we will have trouble, and He says here in Daniel that the children of God will struggle before the last judgment. It's a struggle for the children of God living in a world that is ruined by sin. It's a struggle in the world that hates God's message and His messengers! The people of God also struggle as they wrestle with their own temptations and the weakness of their own sinful flesh. We speak of these troubling times between Jesus' first coming at Christmas and His Second Coming as the “End Times”.

This is the time that we, and all Christians have lived in since Jesus' Ascension into Heaven. And looking around we tend to be like every generation during that time, and believe that things can't get any worse than they already are. And yet, as we see year after year, generation after generation the world continues on a trajectory that is often farther and farther away from Christ and His Word. The apostle Paul wrote, “*all of creation is groaning,*” but how much more must it be groaning today?!?! How much more will it be groaning as we move ever closer to Judgment Day, when Jesus tells us there will be trouble like the world has never seen.

And so, what are God's people to do during these times of trouble? How are we to live in a creation that is groaning, when the world is hostile to us, and maybe even our own sinful flesh rebels against God? Well, God gave Daniel the answer – and that answer is just as good and relevant today as it was back in Daniel's time. Because God gives a promise of deliverance. Christ promises to send His special servant Michael to protect God's people from the devil's plans and purposes. But in addition to that, in these last troubled times, the Lord, Emmanuel, promises to be with us. He Himself has come to save us from sin and death, and He will use any and every mean to accomplish our salvation – whether it be an archangel to protect us from the devil or a cross and an empty tomb redeem us from our own sins and death.

We all know that the world is full of trouble today. We see it around us, and inside of us, every single day. Unfortunately, when God came to Daniel, He told him that things will get worse before they get better. But they will get better. And this is not because of anything that we have done or will do. But only because out His great love for each one of us, Christ has come and will come again. And while we wait for His Second Coming, we cling to that promise and know that He is still with us today watching over us. He still sends His angels to guard and protect us. Still comes to us in His Word to strengthen our faith and trust in Him. And He does these things so that no matter what kind of trouble or sin we face in these troubled times, even if we face death itself, we can be certain that our names are in that Book of Life. And therefore, we will live forever with Him. Amen.