



# Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 A.D.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

*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.**

**Introit** (*From Song of Solomon 2 and Psalm 36*)

[The Lord] brought me to the banqueting house,  
**and his banner over me was love.**  
Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,  
**your faithfulness to the clouds.**  
Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;  
**your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.**  
How precious is your steadfast love, O God!  
**The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**  
They feast on the abundance of your house,  
**and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**  
For with you is the fountain of life;  
**in your light do we see light.**

*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 Nicene Creed. Everyone else may continue the service as printed....*

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## **Scripture Lesson**

(*John 2:1-11*)

<sup>1</sup>On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup>Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." <sup>5</sup>His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

<sup>6</sup>Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup>And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it. <sup>9</sup>When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup>and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.” <sup>11</sup>This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

**Sermon** – † *Our Lord* † (A copy is included at the end of this service.)

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### **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

#### **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 the world
- Project 24 students, Yvonne and Lorine

#### **Healing**

- Melvin (uncle of Deb Heitland) - hospitalization
- Tom Mark (friend of congregation) - health issues
- Karen Kroemer (friend of Laura Holt) - cancer
- Don Hein - recovering after surgery
- Bob (husband of Carolyn Sternowski) - recovering after COVID
- Sharon Ramsey - recovering after surgery
- Ron Prescott - back pain
- Dave Christian - recovering at home after cardiac surgery
- Carol Grimminger - recovering at home after fall
- Marlys Jaspersen - recovering after surgery
- Cindy Broadwater - recovering after surgery
- Tracy Donels - recovering after surgery
- Emily Kroemer - back pain
- Lee Rathje - broken wrist, recovering after fall

#### **Shut-Ins**

- Darlene Eckert— at home

#### **Mourning**

- Gabe (relative of Lee & Brenda Heims) - died 1/3
- Don (brother of Joann Strang) - died 12/21

### **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**

Let us pray...Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; 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.**



✠ *Our Lord* ✠

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

Did you ever hear someone say something and after they are done talking, you have a sneaking suspicion that they don't really know what they are talking about? Sometimes when I listen to confirmation students recite or write out memory work that they don't really know, they'll throw out a bunch of random words that they've heard in church before, hoping that they'll stumble

upon the write ones. The result is usually some sort of an incoherent sentence. Of course, it's not just students who do this, but sometimes our leaders. Listening to or reading what our leaders on both sides of the aisle in Washington are saying about elections or how to deal with the pandemic, it often seems that they have their favorite words or terms, maybe what we would call "talking-points" that their base loves to hear, but what they say really doesn't mean anything, let alone accomplish all that much.

And unfortunately, the church itself is not immune to saying something without really saying anything – or at least thinking about what they are saying. We all know the dangers of just sort mouthing the words of the Lord's Prayer or Creeds, without really thinking about what we are saying and what they mean for our life. But there are also terms that we use in the church – terms that you have probable heard and said yourself – that should really give us pause to think about what they mean.

One of these terms that we say so often in the church, but I don't believe we really think about is the term "Lord" – as in Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. Now just like about any word that is out there – the word "Lord" can mean different things. But in the church, when we say Jesus is my Lord, we are saying He is the One who rules and has power not just over creation, but over our lives as well. And knowing this, we submit to His will and we follow where He leads, much the same way as soldiers follow their commander or subjects follow their king. So when we say that "Jesus is my Lord"; when we say in our prayers or in church, "Lord have mercy"; or at Communion when we hear, "Our Lord Jesus Christ on the night He was betrayed..."? We are saying Jesus is the One that rules over us and we submit to His will in the world and for us.

Mary, in our Scripture lesson today, learned what this meant. St. John tells us that Mary and Jesus and His disciples were all at a wedding in Cana in Galilee, when a situation arises – the wedding feast ran out of wine. Now at the very least, this would have been an embarrassing, maybe even a humiliating situation. Leon Morris, in his commentary on the Gospel of John, points out that the stigma from this situation would last for some time and could have even resulted in a lawsuit. So, the problem had to be dealt with.

Mary, Jesus' mother, apparently knew the family because she came to Jesus with the problem. She told him, "*They have no wine*". Now did Mary want Jesus to send his disciples out to buy more wine? Was she just telling him because she felt bad for the couple? What was she expecting? John tells us that this was Jesus' first "sign." – so it's not like Jesus was known as someone who did miracles growing up. So why bother Jesus with this problem?

I don't know what Mary wanted Him to do or what she expected Him to do, but His response to her had to be disappointing. "*Woman,*" he said, "*what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come*". The word "*Woman*" sounds a lot harsher to our ears than it would have to Mary's. But this and the rest of Jesus' answer points out that He had a different interest and a different purpose in mind than Mary. He definitely wanted her to know that their relationship was no longer that of mother and son; it was now that of Lord and disciple. And as Lord, Jesus wasn't all that concerned about the wine.

Maybe there are times in your life when you feel a little bit like Mary. You bring a problem before God in prayer and it seems as if He rejects you or turns away. That's actually a pretty common feeling. Jesus' disciples were scared to death in a storm at sea while Jesus was in the boat sleeping. They cried out, "*Lord, don't you care if we drown?*" St. Paul prayed to God three times to take away his thorn in the flesh, but the God refused. We all have times when we cry out to God in prayer or for relief or for help, and often it just seems as if He simply doesn't answer.

When this happens however, we need to remember that Jesus is not just God or our Savior, He is also our Lord. And so, we submit to His will for us. Now I understand, that many of us don't like talking about submitting to anyone. Submission is often looked at as a negative thing these days. But submitting to our Lord is a good thing because of His hour.

When Jesus tells Mary that His hour has not yet come, He is referring to His time of suffering. Now this, at the wedding of Cana in Galilee, was not His hour. But in John 12, when the Greeks come to meet Jesus, He says, "*The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified*". Jesus' hour is His Passion and His cross. He has borne our sin. He has borne our punishment. He died in our place. He rose again for us. He has made us His own. He did all of that even though we do not deserve one bit of it. This is the type of Lord that we have in Jesus Christ. And as St. Paul points out in Rom 8:32, "*He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?*"

We all have many cares and worries in life and most of them are beyond our control, just like Mary at the wedding. But like Mary, we also have Jesus as our Lord. Our Lord who has given His life for you. Who has risen from the grave. Who has given you eternal life and will always take care of you. Amen.

