



# Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

**February 6, 2022 – The Fifth 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.**

## Psalm

*From Psalm 71*

**P** O God, be not far from me;

**C** **O my God, make haste to help me!**

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,  
**for their number is past my knowledge.**

With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come;

**I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.**

O God, from my youth you have taught me,

**and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.**

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

**until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*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

*Isaiah 6:1-8*

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory!”*

<sup>4</sup>And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup>And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

<sup>8</sup>And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

**Sermon** – ✠ *Power, Glory, Mercy & Grace* ✠ *(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**

#### **Thanksgiving**

- Tracy Donels - recovering after surgery

#### **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**

- Emily Kroemer - surgery on 2/8
- Joel Knutson - recovering after surgery
- Don Hein - recovering after surgery
- Elaine Cook - recovering after surgery
- Sharon Ramsey - recovering after surgery
- Ron Prescott - back pain
- Dave Christian - recovering at home after cardiac surgery
- Carol Grimminger - recovering after hospitalization
- Marlys Jaspersen - recovering after surgery
- Cindy Broadwater - recovering after surgery
- Lee Rathje - broken wrist, recovering after fall

#### **Shut-Ins**

- Shirley Kellogg - at home

#### **Mourning**

- Austin (grandson of Fran Struck) - died 1/21
- Richard (relative of Carol Grimminger) - died 1/12

#### **Serving Our Country**

- Ben - serving in the Iowa National Guard
- Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of Schoens & Smiths) - U.S. Navy
- Harrison (son of Rob & Faye Sieck) - U.S. Armed Forces

## Collect of the Day

Let us pray... O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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.**



✠ *Power, Glory, Mercy & Grace* ✠

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

In 1931 a stone tablet was discovered on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. The inscription on the tablet read, “To this place were brought the bones of Uzziah, the King of Judah – do not open.” This grave marker, dating to the 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C. gave amazing confirmation of one of the Bible’s most powerful kings. Unfortunately, while Judah rose in power during Uzziah’s reign, Uzziah himself was not the most faithful of kings. In fact, he failed to take down places of worship to false gods and he himself broke the Law of Moses by taking on the work of priests himself. And because of this he was stricken with leprosy until the day he died in 740 B.C., the same year that Isaiah had his vision of our Lord and was called by God to be His prophet.

Isaiah’s vision and call is our Scripture Lesson for today. There, the soon to be prophet sees our Lord Jesus over 700 years before He was born in Bethlehem. And unlike the Christmas shepherds who found Jesus lying in a manger, Isaiah sees our Lord sitting on a throne. In instead of being in the lowly town of Bethlehem, Isaiah finds our Lord high and lifted up, perhaps in heaven itself, with the train of His robe flowing down and filling the entire temple. But the difference between the Christmas shepherds and Isaiah seeing Jesus doesn’t stop with what piece

of furniture Jesus is using or His location; the difference can also be seen in their reaction to encountering Christ.

Luke tells us in 2:20, “*And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*” Isaiah on the other hand, when he saw Jesus said, “*Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!*” When the shepherds see Jesus they’re thrilled and they praise God. But when Isaiah has his vision, he is absolutely terrified. Why the difference?

An answer might be found in the Gospel of Luke. In Chapter 5 of Luke’s Gospel Jesus comes across Peter and others who had just been out fishing all night long. Now at first, Peter doesn’t seem to have any problem with Jesus being around. In fact, he even takes Jesus out in his boat so that Jesus can teach the people. And when Jesus tells Peter to cast his net into the deep sea, Peter thinks it’s a waste of time, but he says he’ll do it anyways. Now at this point, if Peter is not as joyous as the shepherds were, he is certainly not as terrified as Isaiah was. He might be sort of “in between” the two. But then something changed. Something happened that caused Peter to fall at Jesus’ feet and say, “*Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord*” (Luke 5:8). And that something was a miracle – a miraculous catch of fish so great that two boats were completely filled.

The shepherds at Christmas and Peter before the miracle in Luke 5 all see Jesus in what we call His State of Humiliation. This is the time in Jesus’ life where He doesn’t use all of the power that belongs to Him as the Son of God. And so, in this State of Humiliation we see Jesus being born of a human mother and being placed in a manger. We see Him walking around the Holy Land. We hear Him say in Matthew 24:36, “*But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.*” How can the all-knowing Son of God not know something? He doesn’t know when the Last Day will be in His State of Humiliation. And it is in this State of Humiliation that Jesus doesn’t always seem to be that impressive. In fact, it is in this State that Jesus is arrested, crucified, and even killed. He could have prevented all of that, but in His State of Humiliation, Jesus puts aside His power as God. And so the shepherds and Peter are OK being around Jesus in this way.

But that State of Humiliation doesn’t last forever, and in fact, even in the Gospels we see times where Jesus sort of gives a glimpse of who He really is and all of the power He possesses. We call these moments, miracles. Because the miracles show everyone who sees Jesus in His State of Humiliation, His true power. His power over nature, over sickness, even over the demonic forces of Satan. And it is the miracle of the amazing catch of fish in Luke 5 that shows Peter the true power and glory of Jesus. The same power and glory that Isaiah saw in his vision.

When people encounter the Lord in His power and glory without His mercy and grace, the result is often that people are driven away from God in terror or maybe even indifference. For God without mercy and grace is a terrible judge, punishing Isaiah for unclean lips and others for whatever sins they have committed. Unfortunately, it seems that many in the church today have forgotten that there’s no comfort in being with God this way. It seems that everybody wants to be with God! But Isaiah was with God. Peter was with God. And both of them were absolutely terrified.

But Isaiah tells us that one of those angelic creatures, the seraphim, flew over to him with a burning coal. And with what must have been a command from the Lord, the seraphim touched the coal to Isaiah’s lips. And while this sounds to many of us like torture, it was actually done out of God’s grace and mercy to forgive Isaiah all of his sin. The seraphim said, “*Behold, this has*

*touched your lips, your guilt is taken away, and your sinned atoned for” (6:7). And guess what happens when Isaiah’s sins are forgiven? Guess what happens when Isaiah knows not only the power and the glory of God, but also His love, compassion, grace and mercy? What happens is there is no longer fear or terror. But when God needs someone to go speak to His people, Isaiah can’t help but to volunteer! “Here am I! Send me” he says in 6:8. He can’t help to serve God, not be driven away from Him. And then to tell others that God is powerful; that He is just; but He is also gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love (Psalm 103:8).*

What happened to Isaiah and Peter, in many ways summarizes the lives of faith for all Christians. We encounter God and become aware of His greatness. And as the Law of God convicts us of our sinfulness, we become frightened at the thought of being in His presence. Here, maybe we try to run and hide like Adam and Eve. Or maybe we just loose hope like Isaiah or Peter. But God never gives up on us. And just as He pronounced forgiveness to Isaiah and Peter, Jesus still comes to us today to announce the Gospel – the forgiveness of sins. This is what He commissioned Isaiah and Peter to do, and God’s Church still does this today. The Church proclaims, not just the Law of God, but especially the Gospel – the Good News that sinners no longer need to live in terror because through Jesus’ atoning death on the cross, we are forgiven. And when sinners, who are well aware of God’s power and glory, also know the Gospel that shows them God’s love – then the fear and guilt disappear and they can’t wait to serve God however He calls them.

If your life of faith is not where it should be, see where you are on this journey of encountering God, repenting, hearing the Good News, and then being ready to serve. If you don’t know of God’s power and glory, go to His Word and read of creation in Genesis. Look at the miracles of Jesus. Read of His Revelation in...you guessed it...Revelation. If you then are terrified of being in the presence of a Holy God, repent and go to the cross where you will see God’s love through Jesus’ sacrifice. And remember, Christ has come to us and continues to do so through the Word and Sacraments because He wants to be with us, not just today, but forever. He wants to be with us because of His love. Amen.

