



Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

June 12, 2022 A.D.

Trinity 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.

Introit (*He enters into*) *From a Liturgical Text and Psalm 16*

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity.

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mercy to us.

I have set the LORD always before me;

because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;

my flesh also dwells secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,

or let your holy one see corruption.

You make known to me the path of life;

**in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures
forevermore.**

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 Apostles' Creed. Everyone else may continue the service as printed....

Scripture Lesson

John 8:48-59

⁴⁸The Jews answered [Jesus], "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" ⁴⁹Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." ⁵²The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.' ⁵³Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" ⁵⁴Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.' ⁵⁵But

you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” ⁵⁷So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” ⁵⁸Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” ⁵⁹So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

Sermon – † *Keep The Word of Christ* † *(A copy is included at the end of this service.)*

Athanasian Creed

Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.

Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.

And the catholic faith is this,

that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.

For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.

But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.

Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:

the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;

the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;

the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.

And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,

just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.

In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;

and yet there are not three Almighty, but one Almighty.

So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;

and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.

So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;

and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.

Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.

The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.

The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.

The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.

Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another; but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.

Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.

But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.

He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age:

perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;
equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.

Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:

one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;

one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.

For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,
ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence
He will come to judge the living and the dead.

At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.

And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.

This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

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

- Wayne Schilling - hospice care
- The Kroemer family as they help a friend
- Bridget Rinderknecht - job changes
- Persecuted Christians and refugees
- Those suffering after the storm and during the pandemic
- Peace in Europe and throughout the world
- Project 24 students, Yvonne and Lorine

Healing

- Mike Raymon - back pain
- Joyce Fritz - health issues
- Lynn Madsen - recovering after surgery
- NancyLee Siebenmann - recovering after hospitalization
- Faye Sieck - recovering after surgery
- Natalie Heller - recovering after surgery
- Erin Wilson - health issues
- Doug Knutson - cancer treatment
- John Siebenmann - health issues
- Lee Rathje - recovering after surgery
- Cindy Broadwater - relief of foot pain
- Carol Griminger - recovering after hospitalization
- Sharon Ramsey - recovering after surgery
- Dave Christian - recovering at home after cardiac surgery

Homebound

- Candi Engel - Garnett Place

Mourning

- Mechele (friend of Linda Patten) - died 5/14

Serving Our Country

- Ben - serving in the Iowa National Guard
- Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of Schoens & Smiths) - US Navy
- Harrison (son of Rob & Faye Sieck) - US Army

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, 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.



✠ *Keep The Word of Christ* ✠

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

I believe it can be safely said that one of the most important characteristics that we would like to see in a friend or an acquaintance, is that they keep their word. It's something that we call integrity, and it's a valued commodity among people, perhaps now more than ever.

In our Scripture reading today we hear about keeping a word also. But here, it's not about keeping *our* word or *our* promises, but rather about keeping the Word of God. Keeping the Word here, takes on a whole new meaning, because its not about putting trust in ourselves or in other less than perfect people, but about putting our trust in the Word of Him who is completely trustworthy - Jesus Christ. Jesus says in verse 55 of our text, "*I do know the [Father] and I keep His Word*". And then later He says that there are great benefits for those who keep His Word, urging us, even on this Trinity Sunday in 2022 to Keep the Word of Christ.

As Christians today we are urged to keep the Word of Christ because He is the Son of God, the Second Person of the Trinity. The Jews in their spiritual blindness could not understand who Jesus really was. They were aware of His earthly ancestry, but simply could not grasp that the man before them was also divine – truly God in the flesh. Therefore, they insulted Jesus and accused Him of all sorts of crazy things. Things like being possessed by a demon, or being a Samaritan, (someone from the "wrong side of the tracks" so to speak). And as Jesus refuted each one of these wild accusations, the Jews' hostility increased to the point where they were ready to kill Him.

Unfortunately, today there is still confusion concerning the true identity of Jesus. There are those who respect Jesus, such as the Muslims, who believe that Jesus was a great teacher or prophet. But there are also those who are openly hostile towards our Lord, seeing Him as a fraud or His followers as the cause of problems in the world today. But lest we be quick to condemn, or at least look down upon the Muslim or unbelievers, we must confess that we too sometimes fail to remember just who Jesus is, and to remember His love for us, causing us to doubt His goodness or even struggle inwardly with His authority over us.

Just think of one of the more recent times that you have sinned. Perhaps you stole or cheated on something. Perhaps you were using your tongue to honor yourself instead of God, to build yourself up, instead of your neighbor. Perhaps we sin looking for a good time, believing that

living in a godly way and according to His standards would never be able to bring us happiness or joy. Whatever your sin was, it's a safe bet that at that time you had forgotten about your Lord. You forgot that Christ died and rose for you, and thought that you had better take charge, play by your rules, instead of God's Law.

But Jesus makes His eternal and divine nature clear when He says in our text, "*Before Abraham was, I am.*" Jesus is the Son of God in human flesh. Both God and Man. Like the Jews we can't understand this mystery for it seems to defy logic. But by the power of the Holy Spirit, we do accept it, and thus we see the Triune God at work in all of His splendor: The way to the Father is to believe in and trust the Son, which is possible only through the Spirit.

But as followers of Christ, we keep and cherish His Word for more reasons than His divinity. We keep the Word of Christ because He has made promises to us through His Word. Promises that the world around us cannot give, let alone keep. In His Word He promises that God does indeed love us, even when we do not feel loved, or act lovable! In His Word Christ promises us that He has indeed overcome the Devil and Hell, and therefore we have nothing to fear, not even our own sin, when we face death. For in His Word, Jesus promises us eternal life. Apart from Him or without Him, there is only death. But those who are of God through the Word; those who believe that Christ has taken their sin upon Himself; those who believe that He is not in the grave, but has conquered death by rising on Easter morning, - those men, and women, and Children will find life. Life as He said in v. 51, "*Whoever keeps my word shall not see death.*" Or Proverbs 8:35, "*For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord.*"

Having the Word of the Divine Christ and trusting in the fantastic promises He makes through it, we are able to have an everlasting joy in lives right here and right now. Abraham saw the day of Christ, and it brought him joy and gladness as he knew that God would someday send the promised Messiah. Even though Abraham lived some two thousand years before Christ, he trusted in the promises of God that the Savior would come. For Abraham, the promise of God was as sure as having seen it himself. And so, when God promised him a Savior for all people, he knew that God would indeed bless the world.

We too can rejoice with Abraham in the same knowledge of our Savior. We know that Jesus has already come and honored and glorified the Father perfectly with His obedience in our place. He did this out of His great love for us. And knowing that God has always made provision for our eternal welfare, we may have joy even in the midst of suffering in this world.

So, we can see that keeping the Word of Christ brings us blessings far beyond what we could ever expect to receive from any other human being. To keep the Word of Christ means that we can have faith in who He is, the Son of God, as we confess in the Athanasian Creed: "*It is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.*" It also means that we can trust in all of His promises, that He has overcome sin and death for us, and we will not see eternal death. And finally, to keep the Word of Christ means that we can be encouraged and have joy and gladness in this life, knowing that no matter what happens, God's love for us in Christ is a true and eternal reality. Amen.

And now, may the peace of God that surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds forever in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

