



Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

The 10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 14, 2022 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 55*

P Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you;

C **he will never permit the righteous to be moved.**

Give ear to my prayer, O God,

and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy!

For it is not an enemy who taunts me—then I could bear it;

it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me—then I could hide from him.

But it is you, a man, my equal,

my companion, my familiar friend.

We used to take sweet counsel together;

within God's house we walked in the throng.

But I call to God,

and the LORD will save me.

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 – *Luke 12:49-56*

⁴⁹[Jesus said:] “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵²For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

Sermon – † *Division and Salvation* † *(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

Entrusting into God's Care

- Maureen (aunt of Janet Hoech) - hospice care
- 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

- Betty Hein - recovering after surgery
- Natalie Heller - recovering after surgery
- Wade Ramsey - back pain
- Derek (son of Hackbardts) - recovering after surgery
- Faye Sieck - relief from pain
- Elaine Cook - health issues
- Abi Clark - health issues
- Norm Rutz - cancer treatment
- Joyce Fritz - recovering at home after surgery
- Angela Yuza - recovering after surgery
- Emily Kroemer - recovering after broken ankle
- Doug Knutson - cancer treatment
- Lee Rathje - health issues
- Cindy Broadwater - relief of foot pain
- Dave Christian - recovering at home after surgery

Homebound

- Nadine Wax - at home

Mourning, friends and family of

- Tami (friend of Becky Thur) - died 7/12
- John Siebenmann - died 7/10

Serving Our Country

- Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of Schoens & Smiths) - US Navy
- Harrison (son of Rob & Faye Sieck) - US Army

Collect of the Day

Let us pray...Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same 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.



✠ *Division and Salvation* ✠

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

Very often, people will dread going into surgery. They may know that it is necessary to save their lives, but they also know the pain that will come while they recover and that their lives may never be the same. So often a patient say, “I just want to get this over with”. In a similar way, Jesus speaks in our Gospel lesson this morning, Jesus is dreading what lies ahead. So, He wishes the fire was already kindled. He's distressed until his bloody baptism is completed. It reminds us of Jesus' words, “*Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour*” (Jn 12:27). It reminds us of Gethsemane, when Jesus' soul was overwhelmed with sorrow and he prayed that the cup be taken from him. He was full of dread, and yet determined, “*your will be done*” (Mt 26:42).

In today's text, Jesus dreads the fire and the bloody baptism of His suffering, crucifixion, and death – not only because of the physical torments, and not only because He endure the wrath

of God, but also because of one of the side effects of the Gospel: division. It's not the fault of the Gospel, for the Gospel is peace, but it's the fault of sin that Jesus' death causes painful divisions. It's ironic, but true: The Gospel of Peace brings division to the Earth.

Oh, it's true what Isaiah says – Jesus is the Prince of Peace. On the night of His birth, the angels said, “*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace*” (Lk 2: 14). The night when He was betrayed, He said to His disciples, “*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you*”. On the first Easter, Jesus really meant it when He said to His disciples, “*Peace be with you*”. Jesus gives us a peace that the world cannot give, a peace that passes all understanding.

This is the peace between God and man. It's a peace in believers' hearts. It's the peace of knowing that our sins are forgiven in Jesus' name. Some would like this Good News to bring about world peace, a sort of utopia on earth. But Jesus says that will not happen. And it won't happen, not because the Gospel isn't powerful or failing to do what it should. But it won't happen because of sin.

You see, Jesus divides like nothing else – even more than politics today! For some will believe in Him, and others will refuse. Ever since the fall into sin, there has been this division in this world. Adam and Eve were divided from God and each other. Cain and Abel were divided. Think of the division between believers and unbelievers in the days of Noah. Think of Sodom and Gomorrah. Think of the children of Israel and Pharaoh. Think of all the prophets: they spoke God's Word and the people were divided. Some believed; others refused. The same was true throughout the New Testament. Whenever Jesus was preached, people were divided. Some believed, and some rejected the Gospel. Even the thieves on the crosses on each side of Jesus were divided: one repented and was saved; the other refused.

St. Luke in his Gospel has many references to Jesus as one who brings division. Simeon said, “*Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel*” (Lk 2:34). Jesus' entire ministry brought division – especially between the Scribes and Pharisees, who rejected His teaching, and the tax collectors, prostitutes, and sinners, who received Him in faith.

So that's why Jesus says, “*I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled*”. That fire was started when Jesus died on the cross. And it has been burning ever since. Jesus didn't want division and strife. He said, “*How I wish it were already kindled! I wish it were already over!*” Jesus wished the fire was already kindled and the baptism was already completed. Now don't be confused here. Jesus had already been baptized by John in the Jordan at this point. But here Jesus is speaking of the baptism of His crucifixion and death. And He wants to run to that cross so He can say the words, “*It is finished*” – that is our salvation. He began His ministry with a water Baptism in the Jordan, where He placed Himself with us under God's wrath; and now He completes His ministry with a bloody baptism on the cross as He atones for the world. He dreads the cross and the divisions that will come, but out of love for us, He doesn't shrink from the cross because this is how God will save us.

So how do **we** deal with the division the Gospel brings? First, remember that Jesus knows our sadness over these divisions in life and was also tempted in every way you are. He was persecuted within His own family and by His own people. And He tells us, “In this world you will have trouble, but take heart, I have overcome the world!”

With this final victory already belonging to us, we can keep witnessing to our loved ones – not in an obnoxious way, but with love and patience and a genuine concern for them. So, we keep praying for them. We keep hearing God's Word and receiving the Sacrament. God has

promised that through these things our faith and trust in Him will be strengthened. And remember, that even if you are forsaken by your biological family, you are part of the family of God.

The time is coming soon when that last great division will take place publicly on Judgment Day. Jesus will divide the sheep from the goats: believers on His right; unbelievers on the left. Then those who have courageously confessed the faith even to their unbelieving families will be confessed by Jesus to His Father, as He says: *“Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven”* (Mt 10:32). And take heart: for in the new heaven and the new earth there will be no more divisions, just the perfect peace and unity of Christ our Lord. Amen.

