



Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

August 28, 2022 A.D.

12th 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 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.

Psalm

(From Psalm 75)

It is God who executes judgment,
putting down one and lifting up another.

We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your name is near.

We recount your wondrous deeds.

At the set time that I appoint

I will judge with equity.

For not from the east or from the west
and not from the wilderness comes lifting up.

But I will declare it forever;

I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

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

(Luke 14:1-14)

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he

who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

Sermon – † *Three Lessons, One Savior* † (A copy is included at the end of this service.)

Apostles’ Creed

☩ I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life ☩ everlasting. 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

- Marriage of Michelle Wiersig and Mark Zerr on 8/13
- Emily Kroemer - recovered after broken ankle
- Elaine Cook - health issues improved

Entrusting into God's 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

- Rhonda (friend of Larsons) - health issues
- Fran (friend of Larsons) - cancer treatments
- Betty Hein - recovering at Terrace Glen, Marion
- Lorna Fischer - recovering after surgery
- Donna Birkicht - recovering after surgery
- Stephen Stepanek - upcoming surgery
- Harold Schoen - recovering after surgery
- Natalie Heller - recovering after surgery
- Wade Ramsey - back pain
- Faye Sieck - relief from pain
- Abi Clark - health issues
- Norm Rutz - cancer treatment
- Joyce Fritz - recovering at home after surgery
- Angela Yuza - recovering after surgery
- Doug Knutson - cancer treatment
- Lee Rathje - health issues
- Cindy Broadwater - relief of foot pain
- Dave Christian - recovering at home after surgery

Homebound

- Tom Stock - at home

Mourning, friends and family of

- Maureen (aunt of Janet Hoech) - died 8/25
- Darlene (mother of Sue Kroemer) - died 8/22
- Lana (sister of Karen Hass) - died 8/17

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... O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, 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.



✠ *Three Lessons, One Savior* ✠

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

In our Scripture lesson from St. Luke, Jesus teaches us three things. One, is that His followers should be compassionate, not living as hypocrites, talking about God’s love one minute and being cruel the next. Two, is that His followers should be humble, not thinking that they are better than anyone else or drawing attention to the work that they do. And lastly, Jesus teaches us that His followers should be generous, using God’s gifts for the benefit of others. Jesus’ teachings regarding these three things carry with them quite a bit of weight, because Jesus is never One to tell His followers, “Do as I say, not as I do.” In fact every time that Jesus tell us how we should live or behave, we can look to Him to see how this happens.

Dining at the house of a Pharisee on Sabbath day a man with dropsy, a condition that would cause severe swelling, approached Jesus. The Pharisees and other experts in the law who were with Him would have been very concerned about keeping the Sabbath Day holy; to the point that helping this man on the “the day of rest” would have been looked upon as sinful. But before He does just that, Jesus points out that even the Pharisees’ own rules allow for them to help their children, or even their animals, on the Sabbath should they get into trouble.

Now Jesus is not some moral relativist here, telling us that it is OK to break God’s commandment to keep the Sabbath Day holy when it fits our needs or wants. Instead, Jesus is showing that the Law of God has been given to us to help us, not to keep us from helping. The Law commands good works like helping your neighbor, it does not prevent them! The Pharisees know this, because they’ll help their own on the Sabbath Day, but they wouldn’t help someone whom they thought might be unclean. And so, we see in these Pharisees, who claim to be so concerned with doing God’s will, their own cruelty and hypocrisy.

After Jesus heals the man with dropsy and sends him away, He tells a parable about a wedding feast. Before the time of little cards with your name and table number on them, Jesus said that when you go to a wedding feast sit down in the lowest place. If you take the place of most honor, perhaps like sitting at the table with the new couple's parents, and then are asked to move – you'll look foolish. But just imagine the honor if you were sitting way in the back and then the bride and groom were to ask you to come and sit at the head table with them! Jesus says, *"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted"* (14:11).

After this parable Jesus turns to the man who had invited Him to this meal and tells him that when you host a dinner or a banquet or a party, don't just invite your family and friends. Invite those who are hungry and in need. Jesus is not prohibiting anyone here from having their family over for dinner. But if we help someone, however that might be, expecting to get something in return, what good is that in God's eyes? Inviting the poor, the sick, or the blind to your banquet back in those days, you know that those people were never going to be able to repay you. But Jesus tells His followers to do just that because God will see it, and repay your good work at the resurrection.

Don't be a cruel hypocrite when it comes to keeping God's Laws. Be humble. And be generous with God's gifts. This is what Jesus teaches us and this is how He lived among His people and this is how He still is today. For who has ever been more humble than the Son of God who came to us clothed in our humanity, born of the Virgin Mary in a lowly stable, all mso that He could end up outside of Jerusalem on a cross? This is the Second Person of the Triune God, who let Himself be betrayed and arrested and crucified! All of this, because of His love for you.

All of us have to admit, that there are times when we sin against God. Times when we break His commandments, times when we look the other way when people need help, times when we are filled with pride, times when we take advantage of other people. God knows this. He sees these things. He sees all of our sin before we even have the opportunity to do it. And looking at our sin what did He decide to do about it? He sent His Son Jesus to the pay the price for it. The world tells us that this is foolishness. But God tells us through His Word that this is His amazing love and generosity towards us poor sinners who can never repay God for what He has done to save us from our sin.

And in His sacrifice Jesus also shows us how our lives should look as we live as ones who have been saved. But not only can we look to Jesus to see how to live. We can also look to His saints in the Church - those who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ and live like it. Every single one of us has the opportunity to live as God's children wherever He has put us and with whatever gifts He has given. We can be compassionate, humble, and generous with whatever He has given us because this is what His holy word teaches. But even better, we can be this way because God's only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, always has been and always will be compassionate, humble, and generous to every one of us of us. Amen.

