



Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

October 9, 2022 18th Sunday after Pentecost (XXIII)

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 Psalms 34 & 48)

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God!

My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.

Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears
and delivers them out of all their troubles.

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 17:11-19)

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Sermon – *(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

- Commissioning of Joy the Comfort Dog today
- Arrival of DCE Intern, Kierra, in January 2023

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

- Dave Dohrmann - recovering after surgery
- Sam (friend of Carol Grimminger) - cancer treatment
- Stephen Stepanek - brain cancer treatment
- Betty Hein - recovering at home
- Harold Schoen - recovering after surgery
- 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

Homebound

- Wayne Schilling - Linn Manor Care, Marion

Mourning, friends and family of

- Kitty (relative of Doug Knutson) - died 10/2
- Erika (friend of Linda Patten) - died 9/30
- June (friend of Heitlands) - died 9/26
- Deb (friend of Hedtkes) - died 9/6
- Josh (friend of Hedtkes) - died 9/5
- Dick (friend of Linda Patten) - died 9/5

Serving Our Country

- Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of Schoens & Smiths) - US Navy
- Harrison (son of Siecks) - US Army, deployed to Poland
- Jordan (grandson of Kim Neuhaus) - National Guard

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant us always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and praise Your holy name; 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

Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

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.



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

Today's Gospel lesson picks up where last weeks left off. Last week we heard Jesus say that there will be things that cause people to sin, but look out that you yourself do not cause someone to sin. We also heard Jesus say that we are to forgive people as many times as they ask for forgiveness, and that when we do all of these things, we are to be humble. We should not expect anything for simply doing what God wants us to do. And now today, just after Jesus says tells his disciples these things, Luke tells us that Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem. Of course, on His way to Jerusalem, Jesus Himself will encounter of all the things He has just talked about. He will face temptation and scorn from the people and their leaders on His way to Jerusalem. And while there He will earn forgiveness for all of us through the greatest act of humility the world has ever known. Going to Jerusalem is why the Son of God came in the flesh. Jerusalem is where God's plan for your salvation comes together. For in that Passover week, on that Friday we call Good, in those hours when He hung on the cross, Jesus was in Jerusalem dying for us. But as Jesus makes His way to the cross, He continues to teach, to heal, and to love the people around Him. We see this in a remarkable transformation in today's Gospel lesson.

While Jesus is traveling to Jerusalem, ten men with leprosy meet Him outside of the village. They were not allowed inside the village because anyone in Biblical times with a skin disease called leprosy, would be a total outcast of society, often put in isolation or in colonies with others who shared the same problem. It was not so much that people were afraid of catching a skin disease, but rather they were afraid of becoming unclean in the eyes of the Lord. And so, the plight of those who had leprosy at that time was severe. Not only did they have a terrible, often painful disease, but finding someone to help you was nearly impossible, as you would struggle to live from day to day.

We all find ourselves in very similar situation with the disease we call sin. Like some diseases, sin is passed down from generation to generation. In Romans 5:12 St. Paul writes:

“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.”

While we have inherited this disease, we also catch it ourselves on a daily basis. So widespread is the disease of sin that the Psalmist writes:

“The Lord looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.” (Psalm 14:2-3)

We all have this disease, and like leprosy it causes us to be outcasts. Not necessarily with other people. For just as the lepers had their own colonies, there are places and ways that people with the same sins come together. And so, the one suffering from sin is often accepted, quite popular and even successful. She is the gossip that everyone wants to eat lunch with. He is the life of the party that everyone wants to socialize with. She is climbing the corporate ladder by stepping on those beneath her. Just think of some of your sins. Do people turn away from you when they know of them or are you welcomed into this or that group because of them? Regardless of how others look at your sin however, in the eyes of the One who looks down from heaven, the sickly sinner is anything but popular or successful. Because of our sin we are unclean, and God wants nothing to do with us. This disease of sin has killed us and there is nothing we can do about it as we go about from day to day.

But the lepers who meet Jesus know that there is something special about Him. Perhaps they had heard of some of the miracles that He had done, so they call out to Jesus for help, knowing full well that He can. Of course, we know that Jesus does help them and tells the lepers to go see the priest. According to the Law, or the Torah, a leper would go to the priest in the temple for verification that they had been healed and then would offer a sacrifice. As these ten lepers begin their journey to the priest, they find that they are healed. We don't know for sure what happened to nine of the lepers, perhaps they went to the priest, or maybe they became so excited they ran to their families, no longer being outcasts. But we do know that one of the lepers did not go to the priest or the temple as the Law required but went back to Jesus. He returned praising God, as he should and then threw himself at the feet of Jesus. He praised God as He thanked God Himself.

This man went back because he knew that no longer was God to be found in the Temple, because Jesus Christ is God in the flesh standing right in front of Him. He knew sacrifices to God no longer had to be made, because in Jerusalem Jesus would be the one sacrifice that would take away all sins. Believing that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who would die to take away the sins of the world is Faith. And this Samaritan's faith in Jesus, did not cure him from the disease of leprosy, but rather from the disease of sin. Christ then in essence says, "Your leprosy is healed, but it is your faith in me, that has truly made you well."

This cure from sin is freely offered to all people including all of us today, because you do not have to go to offer sacrifices for forgiveness. There is nothing you can or have to do, to take away your sin. You do not have to go anywhere, like the Temple, to find God. You do not have to crack a code, you do not have to pay money to gain access to Him or what He offers. You do not have to do these things because God comes to you. God comes to you in His Word and Sacraments. He tells us that where two or three are gathered in His name, He is there. He tells us that He unites Himself to you when you were Baptized. He tells you this is His body and blood when you come to communion. These are the things that God does for you. And trusting in the One who gives them to us, and not yourselves or what you do, is the Faith. Faith that Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who died on the cross, is the great physician who heals us; Who takes away our sin and truly makes you well.

Your father in heaven has healed you from your sin. He has fixed you up, and like the leper who returned - be thankful. Show God your thankfulness, by loving Him and loving one another. For because He has forgiven you, because He has healed you, you have an eternity of life and true health ahead. Amen.

