



# Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

**May 28, 2023 A.D.**

**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 104)*

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all;  
**the earth is full of your creatures.**  
These all look to you,  
**to give them their food in due season.**  
When you give it to them, they gather it up;  
**when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.**  
When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,  
**and you renew the face of the ground.**

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

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## Scripture Lesson

*(Acts 2:1-20)*

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup>And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, <sup>11</sup>both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear

them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”<sup>12</sup> And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”<sup>13</sup> But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. <sup>15</sup> For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup> But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

*<sup>17</sup> “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;*

*<sup>18</sup> even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.*

*<sup>19</sup> And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;*

*<sup>20</sup> the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.*

*<sup>21</sup> And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”*

**Sermon** – ✠ *Unexpected Power* ✠ (A copy is included at the end of this service.)

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### **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**

- Memorial Day

### **Entrusting into God's Care**

- Persecuted Christians and refugees
- Those suffering after storms and during the pandemic
- Peace in Europe and throughout the world
- Project 24 students, Yvonne and Lorine

### **Healing**

- Nancy (sister of Julie Elias) - hospitalization after fall
- Joel Knutson - recovering after surgery
- Lucas McCarley - recovering after surgery
- Elaine Cook - recovering after surgery
- Ethel Doehrmann - recovering after hospitalization
- Larry Easler - recovering after fall at Hiawatha Care Center
- Tom Stock - health issues
- Lee Rathje - recovering after surgery
- Dave Johnson - recovering after surgery
- Janelle Dunbar - recovering after surgery
- Doug Knutson - immunotherapy treatment
- Bonnie Bubke - personal issues
- Rick Foreman - recovering at home after fall
- Deb Heitland - health issues
- Abi Clark - health issues

### **Homebound**

- Chuck Stoelting - Garnet Place

### **Mourning, friends and family of**

- Stephen Stepanek - died 5/20
- Wayne Schilling - died 5/19

### **Serving Our Country**

- Ben (son of Kroemers) - serving IA National Guard
- Devin (friend of Kroemers) - serving IA Army National Guard
- Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of Schoens & Smiths) - US Navy
- Harrison - (son of Siecks) - US Army, deployed to Poland

## Collect of the Day

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; 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.**



✠ *Unexpected Power* ✠

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

On that day of Pentecost that we read about in Acts this morning, Jesus' disciples gathered together in what appears to be someone's house. Without warning, the house was filled with a noise from heaven, like that of a strong, rushing wind. And just as suddenly, divided tongues of fire rested on each one of them. The great noise and the tongues of fire were manifestations of the Holy Spirit. Jesus had kept His promise, again, and sent His disciples the Holy Spirit so that they could now speak in other languages.

Apparently, this great noise from Heaven and the appearance of fire over the disciples caused a little bit of commotion. For people, and specifically Jews, from every nation that had come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Weeks, gathered together where all of this was happening. And as they did so, each person could hear the disciples talking in their own language! When they came together, they would have expected to hear people talking in Aramaic – that was the language of that area. Or maybe they would have expected to hear people talking in Greek – sort of the universal language of the time. But when the Jewish Parthians, Medes, Elamites,

Cretans and so forth, arrived at the scene – they heard the disciples speaking in their very own, local languages – a miracle, only possible because the Holy Spirit was at work.

Luke tells us that the pious men from around the world who had heard all of this were bewildered, amazed, and astounded – partly because those who were speaking all of these languages were – Galileans. The men who heard the disciples were from all over the known world and important parts of the world. There were Jews from Egypt, a land that at the time still held great significance as the bread-basket of the Mediterranean. There were Jews from Mesopotamia, another land of great empires, where their ancestors had been exiled and post-exilic Judaism had been shaped. Some had come from Pontus, a strip of land along the black sea that had at time been controlled by the Hittites and the Persians. But now in the NT era it had come under Roman control and contained a vital east-west roadway that linked parts of the Empire. The Jews from Crete, would have felt important, as the a Roman Council named Lucius wrote to them that the Jews on the island should be treated well. All of the other places named where important to some degree including of course Rome and Parthia - the two great powers of the time in the East and West.

But when these amazing things on Pentecost happened it wasn't the people or the Jews from the really important parts of the world who were doing these things. The ones speaking in tongues, or foreign languages that everyone could understand, were - Galileans. If anyone was going to do something spectacular during the Feast of Weeks, it should have been the people from the really important and influential parts of the world - like Rome or Parthia. But instead it was people from this small, little, out of the way corner of the world, wedged/squished between two great Empires. Many Jews at the time looked at Galileans as uneducated and backwards. Some believed that they didn't speak clearly or well. And so it was amazing that it would be these people, from this unimportant, backwards land, whom God would not only send His Holy Spirit to on Pentecost so that they might speak all of these languages, but that God would also use them to accomplish His will throughout the known world at that time and ultimately the entire world today.

Sounds familiar doesn't it? God using the weak, the unknown, the powerless to powerfully accomplish His will. Joseph, the young son of Jacob, sold into slavery by his brothers would eventually have all them kneel down before him. Moses, who was put in a basket as a child to escape Pharaoh and then had to flee Egypt as a murderer would go on to be the great prophet whom God would use to free His people from slavery in Egypt. David, a shepherd, would not only slay the mighty Goliath, but would go on to become King over all of Israel. All of these men, and countless more, we look at and must think that they would never amount to anything in life. And truth be told, they wouldn't, unless God was with them.

By themselves, all of the great saints that we read of in the Bible, would be unable to please God and live according to His ways. Not only would they be trapped in their sin, but that very same sin would lead them away from God and towards a path of destruction. But when God draws near, when people are filled with the Holy Spirit, then amazing things start to happen. The weak become strong. Shepherds defeat warriors. The uneducated and illiterate, speak in multiple foreign languages. Ordinary and everyday people, when they are filled with Holy Spirit are able to do the mighty acts of God. But the greatest and the most important of all these things that happens when God is with us – is that we have faith in Christ as our Savior – not so that we can speak in tongues, kill Philistines, or lead people out of Egypt. But rather have faith in our Savior so that our sins would be forgiven, and we would be strengthened to live as His people. This Pentecost may this always be so by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.