



Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

June 30, 2024 A.D. The 6th 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 121)

I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.

For those with access to the internet, you may now play today's worship video at bethanycr.org/sermons and then continue with the Athanasian Creed.

Scripture Lesson

(Mark 5:21-43)

²¹When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. ²²Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet ²³and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." ²⁴And he went with him.

And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. ²⁵And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, ²⁶and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. ²⁷She had heard

the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. ²⁸For she said, “If I touch even his garments, I will be made well.” ²⁹And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched my garments?” ³¹And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, ‘Who touched me?’” ³²And he looked around to see who had done it. ³³But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. ³⁴And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

³⁵While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler’s house some who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?” ³⁶But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” ³⁷And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. ³⁸They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹And when he had entered, he said to them, “Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping.” ⁴⁰And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. ⁴¹Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” ⁴²And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. ⁴³And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Sermon

✠ **Only Believe** ✠ *(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 Infinities, 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

Thanksgiving

- Arlen Breiholz - recovered after surgery
- Freedom

Entrusting into God's Care

- Mickie Sjullie - employment search
- Nathan & Sarah Federwitz - Lutheran Bible Translators
- Peace in Europe and throughout the world
- Project 24 students, Yvonne and Lorine

Healing

- Ken Cook - recovering after surgery
- Kristi Montague - recovering after surgery
- Angela Yuza - recovering after surgery
- Deb Heitland - health issues
- Aaron Moffett - recovering after eye surgery
- Ron Prescott - health issues
- Kim Neuhaus - recovering after surgery
- Ethel Doehrmann - immunotherapy treatment

Homebound

- Dorothy Freese - Keystone Place

Mourning, friends and family of

- Merlin (grandfather of Dathan Hinrichs) - died 6/10
- Chuck (husband of Luci) Stoelting - died 6/8

Serving Our Country

- Devon (friend of Hedtkes & Chitticks) - deployed to Korea
- Mallory (friend of Abi Clark) - IA National Guard
- Amber (daughter of Ann Balvanz) - US Army, stationed in RI
- Ben (son of Kroemers) - IA National Guard
- Devin (friend of Kroemers) - IA Army National Guard
- Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of Schoens & Smiths) - US Navy
- Harrison (son of Siecks) - US Army, stationed in TX
- Jordan (grandson of Kim Neuhaus) - IA National Guard

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.... Heavenly Father, during His earthly ministry Your Son Jesus healed the sick and raised the dead. By the healing medicine of the Word and Sacraments pour into our hearts such love toward You that we may live eternally; 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

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, because of Your tender love toward us sinners You have given us Your Son that, believing in Him, we might have everlasting life. Continue to grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may remain steadfast in this faith to the end and finally come to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.



✠ Only Believe ✠

Grace, Mercy, and Peace from God – the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit. Amen.

As our Scripture reading unfolds before us, what is taking place is more than just a story of Jesus' great power as God. This story is more than just the fact that Jesus has authority and power over death. This story is about the wisdom of the world coming into direct conflict with the way that God does things. Jairus is the father of a 12-year-old girl, who also happens to be a respected leader of the synagogue. This is an important position in community and one that would require much time and effort. But by the time we read of Jairus in Mark's Gospel, he has other things on his mind. His 12-year-old daughter is ill and near death. As a devout Jew, Jairus has done everything that he could do to help his daughter. He had most likely sought the best medical help that was available to him, and if the opportunity was there he had prayers offered up in the synagogue. But nothing works and despite all of the father's effort and worries, it seems as if the girl is slipping away. His mind races for something else, something that might work, and then he remembers the name Jesus.

We do not know how Jairus had heard of Jesus. Perhaps he had been in the synagogue the day that Jesus spoke there with authority. If he wasn't, it is likely that someone had told him about that event. Perhaps Jairus had friend who mentioned to him how this man Jesus had healed a paralytic that was lowered through the roof of a house. Or perhaps someone had mentioned this story going around that Jesus calmed a great storm on the sea. But however Jairus heard about Jesus, after the doctors admitted there was nothing more that they could do, he seeks out Jesus with only one goal - to beg him to heal his daughter.

When Jairus finds Jesus, he throws himself at His feet and begs, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." There is no delay, immediately Jesus goes with the panicked father. But along the way the men from the house

of Jairus come with the news that every parent prays they will never hear. “Your child is dead,” the say. “It is finished there is nothing more to do. You are with Jesus who can heal, but your daughter is dead. Don’t bother the teacher anymore.” With those words Jairus entered into a nightmare of sorrow and pain. His mourning would last not just days or weeks but for the rest of his life. With those words Jairus was left with nothing; no hope for a future, no happiness, no life. But then Jesus spoke. “Do not fear. Only believe”. Jesus said, “Only believe.” But believe in what?

When Jesus tells Jairus to believe, He is not telling him to believe more. He believes already. When his daughter was dying, he came to Jesus because he knew that Jesus could help her. And Jesus is not like a false prophet, who says that if you only believe your arthritis will go away. Or if you only believe you’ll make lots of money. If you just believe your daughter will rise from the dead. Those things may happen, but faith in Christ does not guarantee that they will happen, and if they don’t, it says nothing about your faith. These are some of the things we think about when we hear “only believe”. And perhaps we ourselves have told people to only believe, hoping that we could somehow force others by the strength of our own will into faith in Christ. And of course this cannot happen, for it is only through the power of the Holy Spirit that one can come to know Jesus as their Savior.

And so Jairus is left with his dead daughter, and you are left with the troubles you face in your own life, and Jesus says, “Only believe”. Only believe that the Lord who gave His life for you Calvary cannot be conquered by sin nor death. Believe that the Lord Jesus will take your hands into His nail-pierced ones and say to us, “Arise!” Perhaps not out of the trouble we face in this world, but arise out of your sin and death.

Pastor Ken Klaus of the Lutheran Hour, tells the story of a terminally ill little boy who asked his mother what it was like to die. The Christian mother had already had many talks with her believing son and this time she said:

Remember when you would play so hard all day long that when evening came you could come in the house and be so tired that you couldn’t take your clothes off or even make upstairs to your bed? You would just fall asleep wherever you were – on the couch, at the table, wherever. Yet in the morning, you always woke up in your own bed in your own room. You ended up there because someone loved you and took care of you. Your father would pick you up and carry you to where you belonged. Death is just like that, the mother said. In this world we get tired and fall asleep. We can fall asleep just about anywhere and anytime. But then we wake up to find ourselves in the other room, in our own room, where we belong. The Lord Jesus takes believers to where they belong.

The boy said he understood. But more importantly, his fear was gone. His fear of uncertainty; his fear of death. His fear was gone because he only believed.

That is why we should not doubt what Jesus has done for each one of us, but only believe. If we trust in our own works in this life we will always doubt. But believing in Christ as our Savior by the power of the Spirit, troubles may still remain, but doubt about our eternal future is taken away forever, as we look forward to eternal life with Christ. Amen.

