



# Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

**November 24, 2024**

**Thanksgiving**

*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)*

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

**I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

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 at [www.bethanycr.org/sermons](http://www.bethanycr.org/sermons) and then continue with the Apostles' Creed.*

*Everyone else may continue the service as printed....*

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## **Scripture Lesson**

*(Luke 17:11-19)*

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

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**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  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.**

**Bethany's Prayer List**

**Thanksgiving**

- Thanksgiving Holiday

**Entrusting into God's Care**

- Prudy Petersen - hospice care at Cottage Grove
- Caregivers of those who are ill
- Mickie Sjullie - employment search
- Nathan & Sarah Federwitz - Lutheran Bible Translators
- Peace in Europe and throughout the world
- Project 24 students, Yvonne and Lorine

## **Healing**

- Paul LeFevere - recovering after hospitalization
- Kris Larson - recovering after hospitalization
- Phillip Hackbardt - recovering after surgery
- Duane Pfeffer - recovering after surgery
- Linda Patten - recovering after surgery
- David (brother of Karen Pfeffer) - health issues
- Dixie (mother of Jeff Madsen) - health issues
- Dave Christian - cancer treatment
- Faye Sieck - recovering after hospitalization
- Elda Joyner - recovering at home after surgery
- John Hamm - recovering at assisted living in Wauke
- Angela Yuza - recovering after surgery
- Deb Heitland - health issues
- Elaine Cook - recovering at home after fall
- Ethel Doehrmann - immunotherapy treatment

## **Homebound**

- Cindy Broadwater - at home

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

- Ken (brother of Karen Schmidt) - died 11/19
- Sandra (sister of Karen Hass) - died 11/17
- Dennis (relative of Hoppe and Fischer) - died 11/16
- Norman (father of Ken Zenor) - died 11/5

## **Serving Our Country**

- Mallory (friend of Abi Clark) - IA National Guard
- Amber (dght of Ann Balvanz) - US Army, stationed in Germany
- 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**

Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through 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.**



With Thanksgiving being just a few days away now, we may want to ask, “For what are we thankful? Off the top of your head, you may not think of anything. Then again, you might think of many things. Did you think of your body and soul, eyes, ears and all your members, your reason and all your senses? How about clothing and shoes? food and drink? house and home? wife, children, land, or animals? According to Martin Luther, for all these things it is our duty to thank and praise God.

But, have you ever done something for someone who showed no appreciation? Maybe you had done quite a bit and nothing was ever said. You were probably at least a little disappointed. Luke records that an experience like that happened to Jesus. In our Gospel for today, we hear of ten leprosy men who were miraculously healed. But only one returned to give Jesus thanks and praise. Jesus asks him, perhaps with a trace of disappointment in His voice, “where are the nine?” (Lk 17:17). How often are we like the other nine, forgetting to say thanks for the wonderful gifts we’ve received from God? So as celebrate Thanksgiving Day as a nation, it’s only fitting to remember that we should give thanks and praise to God for His wonderful gifts.

Now, it seems that the nine who didn’t return to thank Jesus did have faith in Him. They all cried out, “Jesus, master, have mercy on us” (v. 13). This is a prayer for salvation. It’s a cry that encompassed all their needs—not just release from leprosy, but release from uncleanness and an end to separation from their families and friends. All ten lepers knew what they needed. They all saw Jesus as their only hope.

And Jesus responded to their cry. He told them, “*Go and show yourselves to the priests*” (v. 14). Jesus sent them to the place where they would be declared clean—released and returned home in every sense. So, there’s no doubt that all ten men believed in Jesus. With the evidence of disease still visible, they went to show themselves to the priests. On the way, all ten of them were healed of their leprosy. There’s no doubt that all of them rejoiced and were happy about what happened to them.

But only one of them remembered Who it was that had healed them. One of them, an outsider to the Jewish people - a Samaritan - saw the God of creation at work in his own life. This one leper saw God in this man, Jesus of Nazareth, and returned to give thanks and praise to that God. He rejoiced not only in the healing that made him part of a community again, but also the healing of his sin. He was now reconciled to God, forgiven of his sins, and given a new life. This Samaritan leper's prayer for salvation, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us," is fully answered. Jesus tells the man to leave his worship and continue in the journey of faith. He tells him, "*Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well*" (v. 19). The salvation he prayed for is now his.

Later this week, many people will be giving thanks for material blessings. Even people who normally have little or nothing to do with God will invoke His name and say, "Thank You." But once this National Day of Thanksgiving is over, will they continue thanking God? Maybe they'll remember God in some time of personal, family, or national crisis. But then again, maybe not. Even you and I sometimes find ourselves weak when it comes to thanking and praising God. After all, we tend to be better askers than thankers. "God, please perform for us! Feed us! Smooth things out! Defend us against our enemies! Make us happy!" Too often we presume God's promise to feed us. We ask for our daily bread but often forget to thank God when we get it, day in and day out.

And we do have lots of reasons to give thanks! Consider again the ten lepers from the Gospel. Jesus healed all ten of them of an incurable disease. But only the Samaritan recognized the Healer behind the healing. Only one of the ten recognized the Giver behind the gift. He believed not only that God had healed him but also that this God was Jesus of Nazareth. The foreigner believed and returned to thank and praise. His Thanksgiving flowed into worship.

Jesus may not have healed us from leprosy, but He has healed us from something infinitely greater. Jesus Christ died for us on the cross to deliver us from the diseases of sin, of death, and of the devil. You and I who suffer from the mortal disease of sin have been healed. In the waters of Baptism, the forgiveness won by Christ on His cross was applied to each of us. God called us by name, set us on the journey of faith, and healed us. That's more than enough reason to thank and praise God!

That thanks and praise flows out in worship. Today, we gather in worship around God's Word and the Sacrament we sometimes call "Eucharist." Eucharist is nothing other than the Greek word for "thanksgiving." We're thankful to have this time to thank God for giving us a good government. We give thanks for all the good gifts God has bestowed on us this year. In gratitude to God, "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings [are to] be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way" (1 Tim 2:1-2).

So, for what are we thankful? There's almost too much to count! All our material blessings; the privilege of having been made children of God and heirs of heaven; living in a nation with rule of law and freedom, especially the freedom to worship the one true God. These are all gifts we have received and continue to enjoy. Thanks and praise to God in Jesus Christ!

As God healed the ten lepers, so too does He give good gifts to the thankful and unthankful alike. As the thankful who have returned to offer thanks and praise, we praise God for the faith that enables us to thank Him for all His blessings. "*Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!*" (Ps 118:29). May we give thanks not only today, and next week, but also every day as we journey through this life on the road of thanksgiving as recipients of God's wonderful gifts.