



# Daily Prayer For Individuals and Families

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

**January 19, 2025**

**The Second Sunday after the Epiphany**

*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 other parts of the service 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 36*

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,

**your faithfulness to the clouds.**

Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;

**your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O Lord.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

**The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

They feast on the abundance of your house,

**and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life;

**in your light do we see light.**

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## **Scripture Lesson**

*John 2:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup>Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." <sup>5</sup>His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

<sup>6</sup>Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup>And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. <sup>9</sup>When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup>and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." <sup>11</sup>This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

**Sermon** *(A copy is included at the end of this service.)*

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**The 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.**



**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**

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

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

### **Healing**

- Stephani (daughter of Mary Nanke)- cancer surgery & treatment
- Mitch Myers - recovering after surgery
- Harold Schoen - recovering after surgery
- Ron Prescott - recovering after surgery
- Paul LeFevere - recovering after hospitalization
- Tom Larson - health issues
- Everly Zimmerman - knee injury
- Phillip Hackbardt - recovering after surgery
- Dave Christian - cancer treatment
- John Hamm - recovering at assisted living in Waukee
- Deb Heitland - health issues
- Ethel Doehrmann - immunotherapy treatment

### **Homebound**

- Carol Grimminger - Cottage Grove

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

- Kenton Zenor - died 1/4
- Fred Henkelmann - died 12/25

### **Serving Our Country**

- Aiden (grandson of Foremans) - US Army
- 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, Germany
- Jordan (grandson of Kim Neuhaus) - IA National Guard

### Collect of the Day

Let us pray... Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; 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.**



It seems common today for people to say something without really saying anything. For instance, we all know the dangers of just sort mouthing the words of the Lord's Prayer or Creeds, without really thinking about what we are saying and what they mean for our life. And there are also terms that we use in the church – terms that you have probable heard and said yourself – that should really give us pause to think about what they mean.

One of these terms that we say so often in the church, but I don't believe we really think about is the term "Lord" – as in Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. Now, just like about any word that is out there – the word "Lord" can mean different things. But in the church, when we say Jesus is my Lord, we are saying He is the One who rules and has power not just over creation, but over our lives as well. And knowing this, we submit to His will and we follow where He leads, much the same way as soldiers follow their commander or subjects follow their king. So when we say that "Jesus is my Lord"; when we say in our prayers or in church, "Lord have mercy"; or at Communion when we hear, "Our Lord Jesus Christ on the night He was betrayed..."? We are saying Jesus is the One that rules over us and we submit to His will in the world and for us.

Mary, in our Gospel lesson this morning, learned what this meant. St. John tells us that Mary and Jesus and His disciples were all at a wedding in Cana in Galilee, when a situation arises – the wedding feast ran out of wine. Now at the very least, this would have been an embarrassing, maybe even a humiliating situation. Leon Morris, in his commentary on the Gospel of John, points

out that the stigma from this situation would last for some time and could have even resulted in a lawsuit. So the problem had to be dealt with.

Mary, Jesus' mother, came to Jesus with the problem. She told him, "*They have no wine*". Now did Mary want Jesus to send his disciples out to buy more wine? Was she just telling him because she felt bad for the couple? What was she expecting? John tells us that this was Jesus' first "sign." – so it's not like Jesus was known as someone who did miracles growing up. So why bother Jesus with this problem?

I don't know what Mary wanted him to do or what she expected him to do, but His response to her had to be disappointing. "Woman," he said, "*what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come*". The word "Woman" sounds a lot harsher to our ears than it would have to Mary's, but it's hardly endearing. If anything, it is a formal or a polite address. This and the rest of Jesus' answer points out that he had a different interest and a different purpose in mind than Mary. He definitely wanted her to know that their relationship was no longer that of mother and son; it was now that of Lord and disciple. And as Lord, Jesus wasn't all that concerned about the wine.

Maybe there are times in your life when you feel a little bit like Mary. You bring a problem before God in prayer and it seems as if He rejects you or turns away. It can be a pretty common feeling. Jesus' disciples were scared to death in a storm at sea while Jesus was in the boat sleeping. They cried out, "*Lord, don't you care if we drown?*" St. Paul prayed to God three times to take away his thorn in the flesh, but the God refused. We all have times when we cry out to God in prayer or for relief or for help, and often it just seems as if He simply doesn't answer.

When this happens however, we need to remember that Jesus is not just God or our Savior, He is also our Lord. And so we submit to His will for us. Now I understand, that many of us don't like talking about submitting to anyone. Submission is often looked at as a negative thing these days. But submitting to our Lord is a good thing because of His hour.

When Jesus tells Mary that His hour has not yet come, He is referring to the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation through His suffering, death, and resurrection. Now this, at the wedding of Cana in Galilee, was not His hour. But in John 12, when the Greeks come to meet Jesus, He says, "*The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified*". Jesus' hour is His Passion and His cross. He has borne our sin. He has borne our punishment. He died in our place. He rose again for us. He has made us His own. He did all of that even though we do not deserve one bit of it. This is the type of Lord that we have in Jesus Christ. And as St. Paul points out in Rom 8:32, "*He who did not spare His own Son but gave him up for us all, how will He not also with him graciously give us all things?*"

We all have many cares and worries in life and most of them are beyond our control, just like Mary at the wedding. But like Mary, we also have Jesus as our Lord. Our Lord who has given His life for you. Who has risen from the grave. Who has given you eternal life and has promised to always care for you.

