

**United Proclamation of the Gospel
&
St. John's Windish Lutheran Church
Scripture and Prayers during Coronavirus Pandemic**

Monday June 1, 2020

Acts 2:1-21

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

Prayer: Glorious God, As Your child living here on earth, I call out Your name to save us! Save us from seeking only our own comfort. Save us from the desire to simply acquire more wealth. Save us from the self serving interests we harbor. Save us from the vanity of leaders among us. Save us from the trials of this pandemic. Save us Lord, that we might boldly acknowledge and proclaim Your loving purpose for our lives to all whom we meet. Amen.

Additional prayers: Calm to children who are fearful from all they hear and see around them

Patience in times of school closures
Guidance for school administrators as they make decisions

Tuesday June 2, 2020

Psalm 10

- ¹ Why, O LORD, do you stand far off?
Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?
- ² In arrogance the wicked persecute the poor—
let them be caught in the schemes they have devised.
- ³ For the wicked boast of the desires of their heart,
those greedy for gain curse and renounce the LORD.
- ⁴ In the pride of their countenance the wicked say, “God will not seek it out”;
all their thoughts are, “There is no God.”
- ⁵ Their ways prosper at all times;
your judgments are on high, out of their sight;
as for their foes, they scoff at them.
- ⁶ They think in their heart, “We shall not be moved;
throughout all generations we shall not meet adversity.”
- ⁷ Their mouths are filled with cursing and deceit and oppression;
under their tongues are mischief and iniquity.
- ⁸ They sit in ambush in the villages;
in hiding places they murder the innocent.
Their eyes stealthily watch for the helpless;
- ⁹ they lurk in secret like a lion in its covert;
they lurk that they may seize the poor;
they seize the poor and drag them off in their net.
- ¹⁰ They stoop, they crouch,
and the helpless fall by their might.
- ¹¹ They think in their heart, “God has forgotten,
he has hidden his face, he will never see it.”
- ¹² Rise up, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand;
do not forget the oppressed.
- ¹³ Why do the wicked renounce God,
and say in their hearts, “You will not call us to account”?
- ¹⁴ But you do see! Indeed you note trouble and grief,
that you may take it into your hands;
the helpless commit themselves to you;
you have been the helper of the orphan.
- ¹⁵ Break the arm of the wicked and evildoers;
seek out their wickedness until you find none.
- ¹⁶ The LORD is king forever and ever;
the nations shall perish from his land.
- ¹⁷ O LORD, you will hear the desire of the meek;
you will strengthen their heart, you will incline your ear
- ¹⁸ to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed,
so that those from earth may strike terror no more.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, You see the needs of all Your children. Allow our words, our thoughts, and our lives to be committed to You! Break the yoke of oppression that we might feel in this time. Hear the hearts of Your children and give us strength to see Your presence in purpose in our daily lives. Strengthen our hearts and our faith O Lord, that we might be Your hands and Your arms doing justice throughout the land. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Workers who are anxious about the safety of their workplaces
Uncertainty in how work will be accomplished in the days ahead
Calm and guidance amid financial uncertainties

Wednesday June 3, 2020

104:24-34, 35b

²⁴How manifold are your works, O LORD!
In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,
living things both small and great.
²⁶There go the ships to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.
²⁷All of them look to you
to give them their food | in due season.
²⁸You give it to them; they gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
²⁹When you hide your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.
³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.
³²You look at the earth and it trembles;
you touch the mountains and they smoke.
³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.
³⁴May these words of mine please God.
I will rejoice in the LORD.
^{35b}Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Hallelujah!

Majestic God, Your generosity springs forth from creation herself! The mountains display Your glory, the creeks, rivers, and oceans sing Your praise. Lift my heart Lord, that I might sing praises to Your Holy name. May our words and our actions share Your glory and may our lives rejoice forever in Your presence. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Government institutions and municipal agencies:
Prayers for Times of Public Health Concern: COVID-19/Coronavirus
Guidance when making decisions for our communities

Thursday June 4, 2020

Psalm 11

¹ In the LORD I take refuge; how can you say to me,
“Flee like a bird to the mountains;
² for look, the wicked bend the bow,
they have fitted their arrow to the string,
to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart.
³ If the foundations are destroyed,
what can the righteous do?”
⁴ The LORD is in his holy temple;
the LORD’s throne is in heaven.
His eyes behold, his gaze examines humankind.
⁵ The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked,
and his soul hates the lover of violence.
⁶ On the wicked he will rain coals of fire and sulfur;
a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup.
⁷ For the LORD is righteous;
he loves righteous deeds;
the upright shall behold his face.

Prayer: God of steadfast love; You show Your face to us all! We behold Your great love through creation, through the loving words and actions of those whom we live among and in the silent moments of our days. Allow Your presence to sustain us in our times of sorrow. Be for us our sure and certain strength where we receive our refuge. Grant Your children peace, not only as we desire, but as You desire for us. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Hospitals, nursing homes, other health care facilities
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Friday June 5, 2020

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

^{3b} No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.
⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.
¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body,

though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Prayer: Compassionate Lord, You have knit Your people together in wonderful and marvelous ways. Allow our eyes to see Your presence in the lives and the actions of those with whom we live and worship. Give us the wisdom to see the beauty of diversity that You have gathered within our community. Open our hearts to remember and recall that indeed just as the body is one and has many members, that We Are truly one body; the body of Christ. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Houses of worship and their ministries at this time

For all who travel

For all who grieve the loss of loved ones

Saturday June 6, 2020

Psalm 12

¹ Help, O LORD, for there is no longer anyone who is godly;
the faithful have disappeared from humankind.

² They utter lies to each other;
with flattering lips and a double heart they speak.

³ May the LORD cut off all flattering lips,
the tongue that makes great boasts,

⁴ those who say, “With our tongues we will prevail;
our lips are our own—who is our master?”

⁵ “Because the poor are despoiled, because the needy groan,
I will now rise up,” says the LORD;

“I will place them in the safety for which they long.”

⁶ The promises of the LORD are promises that are pure,
silver refined in a furnace on the ground,
purified seven times.

⁷ You, O LORD, will protect us;
you will guard us from this generation forever.

⁸ On every side the wicked prowl,
as vileness is exalted among humankind.

Prayer: Almighty God, leaders within our midst argue and fight over what the right things to do actually are. People flatter you with their lips, yet their actions betray Your call to love one another. Rise up, O Lord and reveal Your will to our leaders! Rise up, O Lord and protect and guard the meek and lowly. Be for us our sure and certain defense in the midst of our times of trial. Amen.

Some additional prayers

The World Health Organization

Medical researchers and scientists

All the animals that are used in medical research to benefit our lives

Sunday June 7, 2020

John 20:19-23

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Prayer: O God, on this day You open the hearts of Your faithful people by sending into us Your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in Your peace, through Jesus Christ, Your Son and our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.