

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

Monday June 8, 2020

Genesis 1:1--2:4a

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant

yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Prayer: Creator God, in Your great love, You have created all we witness. The separation of night from day, land from sea, mountain from valley and grassland from woodland. Yet for humanity, You call us to be interconnected and interdependent upon one another. Allow Your great light to live within Your children that we might live into the call You have placed upon us. 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 9, 2020

Psalm 13

¹ How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
² How long must I bear pain in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?
³ Consider and answer me, O LORD my God!
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,
⁴ and my enemy will say, “I have prevailed”;
my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.
⁵ But I trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
⁶ I will sing to the LORD,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, You have given light to my eyes and a voice to sing Your praise. Increase our trust in Your steadfast love that we might live in this world sharing a message of justice, peace, and love that can only come from You. 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 10, 2020

Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and
children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and'
avenger.
³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?
⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:
⁷all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Majestic God, when I consider the works of Your hands I stand in awesome reverence of Your glory. When I witness the animals, the birds, the fish, I witness Your creativity. When I witness genuine love expressed and shared among Your children, I witness the crown and glory that You have shared. Allow my eyes to be focused on Your presence in the world and allow my voice to be raised against those powers that oppose Your will. 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 11, 2020

Psalm 14

¹Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."
They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;
there is no one who does good.
²The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind
to see if there are any who are wise,
who seek after God.
³They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;
there is no one who does good,
no, not one.

⁴ Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers
who eat up my people as they eat bread,
and do not call upon the LORD?
⁵ There they shall be in great terror,
for God is with the company of the righteous.
⁶ You would confound the plans of the poor,
but the LORD is their refuge.
⁷ O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!
When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

Prayer: God of steadfast love; You show Your face to us all! We behold Your great love through those who have and continue to care for our needs during our time in the wilderness. Allow Your presence to sustain us in our times of sorrow. Be for us our sure and certain deliverance from the evil that ails Your creation. 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 12, 2020

2 Corinthians 13: 11-13

[Paul writes:] ¹¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Prayer: Compassionate Lord, You promise to be with us forever. May Your presence allow us to be of one heart and one mind to seek ways of peace. May Your love dwell within our hearts and within our relationships. May Your Spirit reveal the communion we share with all. 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 13, 2020

Psalm 15

¹ O LORD, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?

² Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;
³ who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;
⁴ in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honor those who fear the LORD;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
⁵ who do not lend money at interest,
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

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, 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 14, 2020

Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.
¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Prayer: Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship Your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise Your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into Your presence, where You live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Monday June 15, 2020

Exodus 19:2-8a

² [The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. ³ Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴ You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶ but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ^{8a}The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do."

Prayer: God of glory, You have delivered us from times of peril and have allowed us to emerge on the wings of eagles. Open our ears and our hearts to obey Your voice and lead a life that is focused on Your will. May our lives bring honor and glory to Your holy name. 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 16, 2020

Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
² I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you."^[a]
³ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.
⁴ Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;^[b]
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.
⁵ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.
⁷ I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
⁸ I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
¹⁰ For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.
¹¹ You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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 17, 2020

Psalm 100

- ¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands!
²Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.
³Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.
⁴Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God's holy name.
⁵Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Majestic God, allow our voices to be lifted to make a joyful noise in the land! Allow our hands to be used in service to bring gladness to our neighbors. Bring us to the green pastures which only You provide and allow us to feast in the presence of Your steadfast love. 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 18, 2020

Psalm 17

- ¹Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.
²From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.
³If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.
⁴As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.
⁵My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.
⁶I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me, hear my words.
⁷Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.
⁸Guard me as the apple of the eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings,
⁹from the wicked who despoil me,
my deadly enemies who surround me.
¹⁰They close their hearts to pity;

with their mouths they speak arrogantly.
¹¹ They track me down;^[a] now they surround me;
they set their eyes to cast me to the ground.
¹² They are like a lion eager to tear,
like a young lion lurking in ambush.
¹³ Rise up, O LORD, confront them, overthrow them!
By your sword deliver my life from the wicked,
¹⁴ from mortals—by your hand, O LORD—
from mortals whose portion in life is in this world.
May their bellies be filled with what you have stored up for them;
may their children have more than enough;
may they leave something over to their little ones.
¹⁵ As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness;
when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

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 19, 2020

Romans 5:1-8

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our
hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings,
knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character
produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into
our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed,
rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person
someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still
were sinners Christ died for us.

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 20, 2020

Psalm 18: 1-24

¹ I love you, O LORD, my strength.
² The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,
my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
³ I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,
so I shall be saved from my enemies.
⁴ The cords of death encompassed me;
the torrents of perdition assailed me;
⁵ the cords of Sheol entangled me;
the snares of death confronted me.
⁶ In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I cried for help.
From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him reached his ears.
⁷ Then the earth reeled and rocked;
the foundations also of the mountains trembled
and quaked, because he was angry.
⁸ Smoke went up from his nostrils,
and devouring fire from his mouth;
glowing coals flamed forth from him.
⁹ He bowed the heavens, and came down;
thick darkness was under his feet.
¹⁰ He rode on a cherub, and flew;
he came swiftly upon the wings of the wind.
¹¹ He made darkness his covering around him,
his canopy thick clouds dark with water.
¹² Out of the brightness before him
there broke through his clouds
hailstones and coals of fire.
¹³ The LORD also thundered in the heavens,
and the Most High uttered his voice.^[a]
¹⁴ And he sent out his arrows, and scattered them;
he flashed forth lightnings, and routed them.
¹⁵ Then the channels of the sea were seen,
and the foundations of the world were laid bare
at your rebuke, O LORD,
at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.
¹⁶ He reached down from on high, he took me;
he drew me out of mighty waters.
¹⁷ He delivered me from my strong enemy,
and from those who hated me;
for they were too mighty for me.

¹⁸ They confronted me in the day of my calamity;
but the LORD was my support.
¹⁹ He brought me out into a broad place;
he delivered me, because he delighted in me.
²⁰ The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness;
according to the cleanness of my hands he recompensed me.
²¹ For I have kept the ways of the LORD,
and have not wickedly departed from my God.
²² For all his ordinances were before me,
and his statutes I did not put away from me.
²³ I was blameless before him,
and I kept myself from guilt.
²⁴ Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness,
according to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.

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 21, 2020

Matthew 9:35--10:23

³⁵ Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

^{10:1} Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. ⁹ Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰ no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. ¹¹ Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹² As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³ If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴ If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land

of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

¹⁶“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ²²and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”

Prayer: God of compassion, You have opened the way for us and brought us to Yourself. Pour Your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of Your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.