

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

Monday January 11, 2021

Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18

- ¹ O God, do not be silent!
Do not be deaf.
Do not be quiet, O God.
- ² Don't you hear the uproar of your enemies?
Don't you see that your arrogant enemies are rising up?
- ³ They devise crafty schemes against your people;
they conspire against your precious ones.
- ⁴ "Come," they say, "let us wipe out Israel as a nation.
We will destroy the very memory of its existence."
- ¹³ O my God, scatter them like tumbleweed,
like chaff before the wind!
- ¹⁴ As a fire burns a forest
and as a flame sets mountains ablaze,
- ¹⁵ chase them with your fierce storm;
terrify them with your tempest.
- ¹⁶ Utterly disgrace them
until they submit to your name, O LORD.
- ¹⁷ Let them be ashamed and terrified forever.
Let them die in disgrace.
- ¹⁸ Then they will learn that you alone are called the LORD,
that you alone are the Most High,
supreme over all the earth.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, the world often seems to rebel against Your Will... do not be silent! Allow those forces which work against Your divine love to be limited in this world. Strengthen Your children to speak words of love and peace so that all might know that You and You alone are God. In Jesus' name we pray these things. 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
Parents as they contemplate how to safely educate children

Tuesday January 12, 2021

Psalm 84

- ¹ How lovely is your dwelling place,
O LORD of Heaven's Armies.
- ² I long, yes, I faint with longing
to enter the courts of the LORD.
With my whole being, body and soul,

- I will shout joyfully to the living God.
- ³ Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow builds her nest and raises her young
at a place near your altar,
O LORD of Heaven's Armies, my King and my God!
- ⁴ What joy for those who can live in your house,
always singing your praises.
- ⁵ What joy for those whose strength comes from the LORD,
who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.
- ⁶ When they walk through the Valley of Weeping,
it will become a place of refreshing springs.
The autumn rains will clothe it with blessings.
- ⁷ They will continue to grow stronger,
and each of them will appear before God in Jerusalem.
- ⁸ O LORD God of Heaven's Armies, hear my prayer.
Listen, O God of Jacob.
- ⁹ O God, look with favor upon the king, our shield!
Show favor to the one you have anointed.
- ¹⁰ A single day in your courts
is better than a thousand anywhere else!
I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God
than live the good life in the homes of the wicked.
- ¹¹ For the LORD God is our sun and our shield.
He gives us grace and glory.
The LORD will withhold no good thing
from those who do what is right.
- ¹² O LORD of Heaven's Armies,
what joy for those who trust in you.

Prayer: Almighty God, what joy Your presence among us brings to our hearts. What ecstasy we experience as we look upon the glory of Your works in creation. Open the eyes of all Your children that the world would experience the glory of being in Your presence. In Jesus' name we pray these things. 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 January 13, 2021

Psalm 85

- ¹ LORD, you poured out blessings on your land!
You restored the fortunes of Israel.
- ² You forgave the guilt of your people—
yes, you covered all their sins.
- ³ You held back your fury.
You kept back your blazing anger.
- ⁴ Now restore us again, O God of our salvation.
Put aside your anger against us once more.
- ⁵ Will you be angry with us always?

Will you prolong your wrath to all generations?
⁶ Won't you revive us again,
so your people can rejoice in you?
⁷ Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.
⁸ I listen carefully to what God the LORD is saying,
for he speaks peace to his faithful people.
But let them not return to their foolish ways.
⁹ Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
so our land will be filled with his glory.
¹⁰ Unfailing love and truth have met together.
Righteousness and peace have kissed!
¹¹ Truth springs up from the earth,
and righteousness smiles down from heaven.
¹² Yes, the LORD pours down his blessings.
Our land will yield its bountiful harvest.
¹³ Righteousness goes as a herald before him,
preparing the way for his steps.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, unfailing love and truth have met together, open the eyes of us all to see the divine truth of this statement. Righteousness and peace have kissed, inspire our spirits to live this out in our lives. Allow us all to feel Your blessings pour out upon us that we might be bearers of Your good news in the world. We ask these things in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Risen Lord and Savior. 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 January 14, 2021

1 Samuel 3:1-20

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because

his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

Prayer: Almighty God, You call to us. Open our ears to hear. You inspire our imaginations. Open our minds to find new ways to proclaim Your holy name. Allow us, Your children, to bear witness to Your glorious light that we, like Samuel and Mary before us, might faithfully say "here we are Lord, your servants are listening, do with us according to Your will." In Jesus' name we pray these things. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

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

Friday January 15, 2021

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

- ¹LORD, you have searched me out;
O LORD, you have known me.
- ²You know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- ³You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- ⁴Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- ⁵You encompass me, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
- ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- ¹³For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- ¹⁴I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- ¹⁵My body was not hidden from you,
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
- ¹⁶Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were
written in your book; my days were fashioned before they came to be.
- ¹⁷How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
How great is the sum of them!
- ¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

Prayer: Gracious God, You have formed us in our mother's womb and know the deepest, darkest parts of our lives. Please Lord, forgive our iniquity. Wash us and renew our lives that we might find ourselves marvelously made and through our days affirm that indeed Your works are wonderful! We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 January 16, 2021

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Prayer: Almighty Lord, You have called us, You have adopted us, You have made us heirs. Through Your great mercy You have imparted the Spirit into our lives. Allow our mortal bodies to abide in Your Spirit, that in all we do and say our lives may reflect Your great light. In Jesus' name we pray these things. 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 January 17, 2020

John 1:43-51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig

tree? You will see greater things than these.”⁵¹ And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

Prayer Thanks be to You, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits You give. May we know You more clearly, love You more dearly, and follow You more nearly, day by day praising You, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.