

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

Monday January 25, 2021

Psalm 89:1-4

¹ I will sing of the LORD's unfailing love forever!

Young and old will hear of your faithfulness.

² Your unfailing love will last forever.

Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens.

³ The LORD said, "I have made a covenant with David, my chosen servant.

I have sworn this oath to him:

⁴ "I will establish your descendants as kings forever;
they will sit on your throne from now until eternity."

Prayer: Gracious Lord, open our minds and allow Your unfailing love to enter in! Open our mouths Lord, young and old alike and allow us to sing of Your praise forever, for You faithfulness endures a lifetime and beyond and You Lord have established Your covenant through us all from now until eternity. 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 26, 2021

Psalm 90

¹ Lord, through all the generations
you have been our home!

² Before the mountains were born,
before you gave birth to the earth and the world,
from beginning to end, you are God.

³ You turn people back to dust, saying,
"Return to dust, you mortals!"

⁴ For you, a thousand years are as a passing day,
as brief as a few night hours.

⁵ You sweep people away like dreams that disappear.
They are like grass that springs up in the morning.

⁶ In the morning it blooms and flourishes,
but by evening it is dry and withered.

⁷ We wither beneath your anger;
we are overwhelmed by your fury.

⁸ You spread out our sins before you—
our secret sins—and you see them all.

- ⁹ We live our lives beneath your wrath,
ending our years with a groan.
- ¹⁰ Seventy years are given to us!
Some even live to eighty.
But even the best years are filled with pain and trouble;
soon they disappear, and we fly away.
- ¹¹ Who can comprehend the power of your anger?
Your wrath is as awesome as the fear you deserve.
- ¹² Teach us to realize the brevity of life,
so that we may grow in wisdom.
- ¹³ O LORD, come back to us!
How long will you delay?
Take pity on your servants!
- ¹⁴ Satisfy us each morning with your unfailing love,
so we may sing for joy to the end of our lives.
- ¹⁵ Give us gladness in proportion to our former misery!
Replace the evil years with good.
- ¹⁶ Let us, your servants, see you work again;
let our children see your glory.
- ¹⁷ And may the Lord our God show us his approval
and make our efforts successful.
Yes, make our efforts successful!

Prayer: Almighty God, You have walked with our ancestors in trials that have past and You continue to walk among us today. When the chaos of our lives overwhelm, it is You, Who calls us each by name to “come home.” Come home to Your sweet words of salvation. Come home to Your arms ready to embrace. Come home to Your heart which has made room for us all. We thank You Lord for making a home for us forever. 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 27, 2021

Psalm 91

- ¹ Those who live in the shelter of the Most High
will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
- ² This I declare about the LORD:
He alone is my refuge, my place of safety;
he is my God, and I trust him.
- ³ For he will rescue you from every trap
and protect you from deadly disease.
- ⁴ He will cover you with his feathers.
He will shelter you with his wings.
His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

- ⁵ Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night,
nor the arrow that flies in the day.
- ⁶ Do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness,
nor the disaster that strikes at midday.
- ⁷ Though a thousand fall at your side,
though ten thousand are dying around you,
these evils will not touch you.
- ⁸ Just open your eyes,
and see how the wicked are punished.
- ⁹ If you make the LORD your refuge,
if you make the Most High your shelter,
- ¹⁰ no evil will conquer you;
no plague will come near your home.
- ¹¹ For he will order his angels
to protect you wherever you go.
- ¹² They will hold you up with their hands
so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.
- ¹³ You will trample upon lions and cobras;
you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet!
- ¹⁴ The LORD says, "I will rescue those who love me.
I will protect those who trust in my name.
- ¹⁵ When they call on me, I will answer;
I will be with them in trouble.
I will rescue and honor them.
- ¹⁶ I will reward them with a long life
and give them my salvation."

Prayer: Gracious Lord, You invite us to live in the shelter of Your arms. Though arrows fly by day and disease stalks in the not, we open our eyes to behold that indeed You are our refuge and our salvation. Rescue us Lord from the terrors of this day and be with us in all our troubles. 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 28, 2021

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who

presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

Prayer: Almighty God, Where are Your prophets who are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, for in their words Your love and hope reside. Guide our footsteps into Your path and allow our hearts to be open to hear the words, the hopes, and the dreams You envision for each of us and all of us. 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 29, 2021

Psalm 111

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are your works, O LORD,
pondered by all who delight in them.

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.

⁵You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

⁸They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;
holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

Prayer: Gracious God, Your works in the world are too numerous to list. The love You provide is too deep to explain. Allow us Lord simply to feel Your presence dwelling among us and allow us all Lord to find wisdom and justice in the land in which we live. 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 30, 2021

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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 31, 2020

Mark 1:21-28

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Prayer Compassionate God, You gather the whole universe into Your radiant presence and continually reveal Your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

