

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

Monday January 4, 2021

Psalm 81:1-7

¹ Sing praises to God, our strength.
Sing to the God of Jacob.

² Sing! Beat the tambourine.

Play the sweet lyre and the harp.

³ Blow the ram's horn at new moon,
and again at full moon to call a festival!

⁴ For this is required by the decrees of Israel;
it is a regulation of the God of Jacob.

⁵ He made it a law for Israel
when he attacked Egypt to set us free.

I heard an unknown voice say,

⁶ "Now I will take the load from your shoulders;
I will free your hands from their heavy tasks.

⁷ You cried to me in trouble, and I saved you;
I answered out of the thundercloud

and tested your faith when there was no water at Meribah.

Prayer: God of our salvation, You call us to sing praises to You and You alone! Hear us as we call for You to take the load from our shoulders. Free our hands for the heavy tasks set before us that we might delight in Your presence. We call to You, O Lord in our times of trouble... save 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
Parents as they contemplate how to safely educate children

Tuesday January 5, 2021

Psalm 81:8-16

⁸ "Listen to me, O my people, while I give you stern warnings.
O Israel, if you would only listen to me!

⁹ You must never have a foreign god;
you must not bow down before a false god.

¹⁰ For it was I, the LORD your God,
who rescued you from the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it with good things.

¹¹ "But no, my people wouldn't listen.
Israel did not want me around.

¹² So I let them follow their own stubborn desires,
living according to their own ideas.
¹³ Oh, that my people would listen to me!
Oh, that Israel would follow me, walking in my paths!
¹⁴ How quickly I would then subdue their enemies!
How soon my hands would be upon their foes!
¹⁵ Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him;
they would be doomed forever.
¹⁶ But I would feed you with the finest wheat.
I would satisfy you with wild honey from the rock.”

Prayer: Almighty God, Open our ears to hear Your call for justice and peace. Touch our hearts with a message of love for You and love for our neighbors. Feed us Lord with Your finest wheat and allow us to be satisfied with Your sweet Word. 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 6, 2021

Psalm 82

¹ God presides over heaven’s court;
he pronounces judgment on the heavenly beings:
² “How long will you hand down unjust decisions
by favoring the wicked?
³ “Give justice to the poor and the orphan;
uphold the rights of the oppressed and the destitute.
⁴ Rescue the poor and helpless;
deliver them from the grasp of evil people.
⁵ But these oppressors know nothing;
they are so ignorant!
They wander about in darkness,
while the whole world is shaken to the core.
⁶ I say, ‘You are gods;
you are all children of the Most High.
⁷ But you will die like mere mortals
and fall like every other ruler.’”
⁸ Rise up, O God, and judge the earth,
for all the nations belong to you.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, You desire justice among the poor, the widow and the orphan. Give us a desire to uphold the rights, the dignity, and respect for the poor and the destitute. Strengthen us to lend a hand to the helpless and deliver them from the grasp of people who commit evil. Allow us to be beacons of Your divine light shining 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 7, 2021

Genesis 1:1-5

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.

Prayer: Almighty God, we humbly come before You and seek Your divine intervention within the world in which we live. Remove the pain from our hearts, reveal the untold mysteries of Your great love, bring us to Your green pasture where all will be made new in Your glorious light. 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 8, 2021

Psalms 29

¹ Honor the LORD, you heavenly beings
honor the LORD for his glory and strength.
² Honor the LORD for the glory of his name.
Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.
³ The voice of the LORD echoes above the sea.
The God of glory thunders.
The LORD thunders over the mighty sea.
⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is majestic.
⁵ The voice of the LORD splits the mighty cedars;
the LORD shatters the cedars of Lebanon.
⁶ He makes Lebanon's mountains skip like a calf;
he makes Mount Hermon leap like a young wild ox.
⁷ The voice of the LORD strikes
with bolts of lightning.
⁸ The voice of the LORD makes the barren wilderness quake;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
⁹ The voice of the LORD twists mighty oaks
and strips the forests bare.
In his Temple everyone shouts, "Glory!"
¹⁰ The LORD rules over the floodwaters.
The LORD reigns as king forever.

¹¹ The LORD gives his people strength.
The LORD blesses them with peace.

Prayer: Gracious God, We honor Your holy name and sing Your praise in our thoughts, our songs, our words and our actions for You are Holy. Your name is powerful and majestic and we join creation in shouting "Glory!" Grant us strength and grant us peace that we may be sustained in our mortal lives. 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 9, 2021

Acts 19:1-7

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

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 10, 2020

Mark 1:4-11

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the

Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Prayer Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, Your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in Your grace, and transform us by Your Spirit, that we may follow after Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.