

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

Monday October 5, 2020

Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

Prayer: Gracious Lord, In Your great mercy, You have shared with us all the bounty of the land. Yet, in our sinfulness, we have often abused the land. Creation herself and all of her inhabitants. Be gracious and merciful to us. Strengthen our resolve that in all we do and in all we say that we may tend Your creation and all that lives within her confines with steadfast love. We ask these things in Jesus' 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
Parents as they contemplate how to safely educate
children

Tuesday October 6, 2020

Psalm 57

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy!
I look to you for protection.
I will hide beneath the shadow of your wings
until the danger passes by.
² I cry out to God Most High,
to God who will fulfill his purpose for me.
³ He will send help from heaven to rescue me,
disgracing those who hound me.
My God will send forth his unfailing love and faithfulness.
⁴ I am surrounded by fierce lions
who greedily devour human prey—

whose teeth pierce like spears and arrows,
and whose tongues cut like swords.

⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the highest heavens!
May your glory shine over all the earth.

⁶ My enemies have set a trap for me.
I am weary from distress.
They have dug a deep pit in my path,
but they themselves have fallen into it. *Interlude*

⁷ My heart is confident in you, O God;
my heart is confident.

No wonder I can sing your praises!

⁸ Wake up, my heart!

Wake up, O lyre and harp!

I will wake the dawn with my song.

⁹ I will thank you, Lord, among all the people.
I will sing your praises among the nations.

¹⁰ For your unfailing love is as high as the heavens.
Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

¹¹ Be exalted, O God, above the highest heavens.
May your glory shine over all the earth

Prayer: Holy Lord, in the moments of life when we feel overwhelmed with foes, whether those foes be circumstances of our life, illnesses, or mortal enemies, send Your guidance into our lives to direct our ways in response. Let us thank You Lord and allow our voices to be lifted in Your praise at all times! For indeed, Your steadfast love reaches us all! We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ our risen Lord and Savior. 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 October 7, 2020

PSALM: 80:7-15

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
⁸You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.
⁹You cleared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.
¹⁰The mountains were covered by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
¹¹You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river.
¹²Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
¹³The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
¹⁴Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;
¹⁵behold and tend this vine;
preserve what your right hand has planted.

Prayer:Gracious Lord, All that we view belongs to You! You have stretched forth the skies and the earth. Indeed we and all that we know are Yours. Look upon Your children with grace and mercy, that we would always know and feel Your unending love. 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 October 8, 2020

Psalm 58

- ¹ Justice—do you rulers know the meaning of the word?
Do you judge the people fairly?
- ² No! You plot injustice in your hearts.
You spread violence throughout the land.
- ³ These wicked people are born sinners;
even from birth they have lied and gone their own way.
- ⁴ They spit venom like deadly snakes;
they are like cobras that refuse to listen,
- ⁵ ignoring the tunes of the snake charmers,
no matter how skillfully they play.
- ⁶ Break off their fangs, O God!
Smash the jaws of these lions, O LORD!
- ⁷ May they disappear like water into thirsty ground.
Make their weapons useless in their hands. [C]
- ⁸ May they be like snails that dissolve into slime,
like a stillborn child who will never see the sun.
- ⁹ God will sweep them away, both young and old,
faster than a pot heats over burning thorns.
- ¹⁰ The godly will rejoice when they see injustice avenged.
They will wash their feet in the blood of the wicked.
- ¹¹ Then at last everyone will say,
“There truly is a reward for those who live for God;
surely there is a God who judges justly here on earth.”

Prayer: God of justice; there are many within our midst who suffer from injustice and as Your children we know in our hearts that You desire all people to be treated with respect and dignity. Give us discerning hearts and minds and embolden us with Your voice, that we might be advocates for all those who are in need. 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 October 9, 2020

Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Prayer: Gracious God, we press forward in life know that You will accompany us in our journey. Increase in us all trust and faith that You and You alone provide for all that we need. That we might move forward in life pressing toward the goal of our heavenly call in Your presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and 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 October 10, 2020

Psalm 59:1-56, 16-17

¹ Rescue me from my enemies, O God.
Protect me from those who have come to destroy me.

² Rescue me from these criminals;
save me from these murderers.

³ They have set an ambush for me.
Fierce enemies are out there waiting, LORD,
though I have not sinned or offended them.

⁴ I have done nothing wrong,
yet they prepare to attack me.

Wake up! See what is happening and help me!

⁵ O LORD God of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel,
wake up and punish those hostile nations.

Show no mercy to wicked traitors.

¹⁶ But as for me, I will sing about your power.
Each morning I will sing with joy about your unfailing love.

For you have been my refuge,
a place of safety when I am in distress.

¹⁷ O my Strength, to you I sing praises,
for you, O God, are my refuge,
the God who shows me unfailing love.

Prayer: Almighty Lord, be gracious to us and allow our sure hope and confidence in Your promises be our foundation. When the world utters against Your holy name, grant us wisdom to share Your peace. When others work against issues of justice grant us Your words and Spirit to deny them. We render our thanks to You, for You and You alone are the source of our lives and desire to bring us all to Your everlasting 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 October 11, 2020

Matthew 21:33-46

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Prayer Beloved God, from You come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of Your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by Your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen