

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

Monday December 28, 2020

Isaiah 61:10--62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Prayer: God of our salvation, You have clothed us with garments of forgiveness, mercy, and abounding grace! You have come to us anew and restored our fortunes in Your presence. The people shall bear witness to Your glory, renew our faith that we might be emboldened to tell the world of Your great love! 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 December 29, 2020

Psalm 78:1-7

¹ O my people, listen to my instructions.
Open your ears to what I am saying,
² for I will speak to you in a parable.
I will teach you hidden lessons from our past—
³ stories we have heard and known,
stories our ancestors handed down to us.
⁴ We will not hide these truths from our children;
we will tell the next generation
about the glorious deeds of the LORD,
about his power and his mighty wonders.
⁵ For he issued his laws to Jacob;
he gave his instructions to Israel.
He commanded our ancestors
to teach them to their children,
⁶ so the next generation might know them—
even the children not yet born—
and they in turn will teach their own children.
⁷ So each generation should set its hope anew on God,
not forgetting his glorious miracles
and obeying his commands.

Prayer: Almighty God, You speak and our ears do not hear. You act and our eyes remain closed. You love, yet our hearts remained hardened. Come upon us, O Lord and allow our very being to rejoice in the great love which springs forth from You. 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 December 30, 2020

Psalm 148

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens!

Praise him from the skies!

² Praise him, all his angels!

Praise him, all the armies of heaven!

³ Praise him, sun and moon!

Praise him, all you twinkling stars!

⁴ Praise him, skies above!

Praise him, vapors high above the clouds!

⁵ Let every created thing give praise to the LORD,
for he issued his command, and they came into being.

⁶ He set them in place forever and ever.

His decree will never be revoked.

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
you creatures of the ocean depths,

⁸ fire and hail, snow and clouds, ^[a]

wind and weather that obey him,

⁹ mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars,

¹⁰ wild animals and all livestock,

small scurrying animals and birds,

¹¹ kings of the earth and all people,

rulers and judges of the earth,

¹² young men and young women,

old men and children.

¹³ Let them all praise the name of the LORD.

For his name is very great;

his glory towers over the earth and heaven!

¹⁴ He has made his people strong,

honoring his faithful ones—

the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the LORD!

Prayer: Gracious Lord, we lift our voices to sing Your praises for You are our salvation. We come before You with thankful hearts for You are great and above all other gods. We come before you to worship and give thanks

for Your glory for we are Your people. 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 December 31, 2020

Psalm 79:9-13

⁹ Help us, O God of our salvation!
Help us for the glory of your name.
Save us and forgive our sins
for the honor of your name.

¹⁰ Why should pagan nations be allowed to scoff,
asking, "Where is their God?"
Show us your vengeance against the nations,
for they have spilled the blood of your servants.

¹¹ Listen to the moaning of the prisoners.
Demonstrate your great power by saving those condemned to die.

¹² O Lord, pay back our neighbors seven times
for the scorn they have hurled at you.

¹³ Then we your people, the sheep of your pasture,
will thank you forever and ever,
praising your greatness from generation to generation.

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 sight. 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 1, 2021

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Prayer: Gracious God, Jesus came among us, born of Mary, to redeem the world in which we live. Abba! Father! We give You thanks that now we too have been adopted by You! 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 2, 2021

Psalm 80:1-3

¹ Please listen, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph's descendants like a flock.
O God, enthroned above the cherubim,
display your radiant glory
² to Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh.
Show us your mighty power.
Come to rescue us!
³ Turn us again to yourself, O God.
Make your face shine down upon us.
Only then will we be saved.

Prayer: Almighty Lord, we cry out to You. Almighty God, we wait for Your guidance. 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 3, 2020

Luke 2:22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy

Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Prayer O God of power and might, Your Son shows us the way of service,

and in Him we inherit the riches of Your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world You have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen