

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

Monday February 1, 2021

Psalm 92

- ¹ It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
 to sing praises to the Most High.
² It is good to proclaim your unfailing love in the morning,
 your faithfulness in the evening,
³ accompanied by a ten-stringed instrument, a harp,
 and the melody of a lyre.
⁴ You thrill me, LORD, with all you have done for me!
 I sing for joy because of what you have done.
⁵ O LORD, what great works you do!
 And how deep are your thoughts.
⁶ Only a simpleton would not know,
 and only a fool would not understand this:
⁷ Though the wicked sprout like weeds
 and evildoers flourish,
 they will be destroyed forever.
⁸ But you, O LORD, will be exalted forever.
⁹ Your enemies, LORD, will surely perish;
 all evildoers will be scattered.
¹⁰ But you have made me as strong as a wild ox.
 You have anointed me with the finest oil.
¹¹ My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies;
 my ears have heard the defeat of my wicked opponents.
¹² But the godly will flourish like palm trees
 and grow strong like the cedars of Lebanon.
¹³ For they are transplanted to the LORD's own house.
 They flourish in the courts of our God.
¹⁴ Even in old age they will still produce fruit;
 they will remain vital and green.
¹⁵ They will declare, "The LORD is just!
 He is my rock!
 There is no evil in him!"

Prayer: Gracious Lord, Your Word and Your presence in the world thrills me! Your hands have formed and fashioned this beautiful creation, lifting the mountains and painting the meadows below. Your breath has cast the skies in their place and separated the water from the land. It's in Your majestic presence that we will always give glory and praise to Your holy name. 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 February 2, 2021

Psalm 93

- ¹The LORD is king! He is robed in majesty.
Indeed, the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength.
The world stands firm
and cannot be shaken.
- ²Your throne, O LORD, has stood from time immemorial.
You yourself are from the everlasting past.
- ³The floods have risen up, O LORD.
The floods have roared like thunder;
the floods have lifted their pounding waves.
- ⁴But mightier than the violent raging of the seas,
mightier than the breakers on the shore—
the LORD above is mightier than these!
- ⁵Your royal laws cannot be changed.
Your reign, O LORD, is holy forever and ever.

Prayer: Almighty God, You have consistently walked beside us O Lord to give us strength and protect us from all that threatens our separation from You. Your law of steadfast love will be our hope for our present and our future. Give us a measure of faithfulness that we may trust in Your eternal covenant. 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 February 3, 2021

Psalm 94:1-7, 20-23

- ¹O LORD, the God of vengeance,
O God of vengeance, let your glorious justice shine forth!
- ²Arise, O Judge of the earth.
Give the proud what they deserve.
- ³How long, O LORD?
How long will the wicked be allowed to gloat?
- ⁴How long will they speak with arrogance?
How long will these evil people boast?
- ⁵They crush your people, LORD,
hurting those you claim as your own.
- ⁶They kill widows and foreigners
and murder orphans.

- ⁷ “The LORD isn’t looking,” they say,
“and besides, the God of Israel doesn’t care.”
- ²⁰ Can unjust leaders claim that God is on their side—
leaders whose decrees permit injustice?
- ²¹ They gang up against the righteous
and condemn the innocent to death.
- ²² But the LORD is my fortress;
my God is the mighty rock where I hide.
- ²³ God will turn the sins of evil people back on them.
He will destroy them for their sins.
The LORD our God will destroy them.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, We humbly come before You and pray for the leaders of our nation, that You would guide their thoughts and decisions in ways that would lead us all with truth and dignity. That each of their minds would be open to discover that every life on earth is sacred and that the justice You desire will falter when they cannot reconcile with one another. Lead them and lead us all in the ways of Your eternal peace, O Lord. 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 February 4, 2021

Isaiah 40:21-31

- ²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
- ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
- ²³ who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
- ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
- ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,
not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Prayer: Almighty God, Lift up our eyes to see the glory of Your abiding presence. Open our minds to realize the justice that You cry for. Move our bodies to be luminaries in the midst of darkness and provide us with peace, that we might rest comfortably in Your comforting arms. 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 February 5, 2021

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.

³The LORD heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.

⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,

⁸who covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.

⁹God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.
¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,
¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c}Hallelujah!

Prayer: Gracious God, for over a year we have walked through the valleys of illness. Many of us have undergone radical changes in our lives and have endured great hardship. Yet You, O Lord bind up the wounds of the broken hearted. Come among us O Lord and give us strength to see this time through. 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 February 6, 2021

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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 February 7, 2020

Mark 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Prayer Everlasting God, You give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of Your healing and wholeness, that Your good news may be made known to the ends of Your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.