

**United Proclamation of the Gospel
&
St. John's Windish Lutheran Church
Scripture and Prayers during Coronavirus Pandemic
Holy Week 2020**

April 13, 2020 – April 19, 2020

Monday April 13, 2020

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

²Let Israel say,
"His steadfast love endures forever." ¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

¹⁵There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

¹⁶the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

¹⁷I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Today's Prayer

Gracious Lord, in the resurrection of Jesus, You have redeemed Your people and have brought us all to a "new day!" We give thanks and praise to You for the gift of new life! Send Your Spirit among all those in the world who need to be reminded of the new life that dwells within Your glory, protect those who are vulnerable, and allow us all to seek Your presence dwelling among us. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Please keep people who live in abusive households in your thoughts and prayers, children, spouses, elderly.

Please share a special prayer for those who continue to work in the medical field, that God would guide their hearts, thoughts, and mind and bring them a peace in this time of chaos.

Exodus 15:1-18

- ¹Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:
"I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.
- ²The LORD is my strength and my might,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him,
my father's God, and I will exalt him.
- ³The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.
- ⁴"Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea.
- ⁵The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.
- ⁶Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power —
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.
- ⁷In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;
you sent out your fury, it consumed them like stubble.
- ⁸At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up,
the floods stood up in a heap;
the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.
- ⁹The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake,
I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them.
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.'
- ¹⁰You blew with your wind, the sea covered them;
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.
- ¹¹"Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?
- ¹²You stretched out your right hand,
the earth swallowed them.
- ¹³"In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed;
you guided them by your strength to your holy abode.
- ¹⁴The peoples heard, they trembled;
pangs seized the inhabitants of Philistia.
- ¹⁵Then the chiefs of Edom were dismayed;
trembling seized the leaders of Moab;
all the inhabitants of Canaan melted away.
- ¹⁶Terror and dread fell upon them;
by the might of your arm, they became still as a stone
until your people, O LORD, passed by,
until the people whom you acquired passed by.
- ¹⁷You brought them in and planted them on the mountain of your own possession,
the place, O LORD, that you made your abode,
the sanctuary, O LORD, that your hands have established.
- ¹⁸"The LORD will reign forever and ever."

Tuesday continued ...

Today's Prayer

Passionate God, throughout all of history, You have brought Your people through times of great peril and have restored us. In You and You alone we place our trust. Be with us all through this time in our lives when we need to have hope and trust in Your promises. Guide us through these days and once again restore Your people to places of safety. In Jesus' name we pray these things. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Please keep people who have been separated from their families during this time in your thoughts and prayer.

Please keep all our government leaders in your thoughts and prayers asking that our Lord would continue to guide all of their decisions in ways of justice and peace.

Wednesday April 15, 2020

Colossians 3:1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things — anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Today's Prayer

Gracious Lord, through the life of Jesus we have a model of life that You desire. When we are angry, bring us serenity. When we lack forgiveness for others, remind us of the grace that You show us. When we desire payback, remind us of Your incredible mercy. In all times and in all places allow us to sense Your presence dwelling among us bringing us sharing a word of peace and love. In Jesus' name we pray these things. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Please keep all those people who are doing their best to keep us safe and protected in our homes in your thoughts and prayers. The first responders, the gas station attendants, all the truck drivers, all the people who provide us with daily sustenance.

Please keep our church leaders in your thoughts and prayers that God's Spirit would continue to guide them.

Thursday April 16, 2020

Psalm 16

¹Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
²I say to the LORD, "You are my LORD;
I have no good apart from you."
³As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.
⁴Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.
⁵The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
⁶The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.
⁷I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
⁸I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
¹⁰For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.
¹¹You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Today's Prayer

Gracious Lord, You are our refuge. You are our chosen portion and our cup. In our times of doubt, give us hope. In our times of discouragement, allow us to sense Your will. Stay ever before us in this time and show us all the path of abundant life in Your presence, for only there will we feel the fullness of joy, peace, and love. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Today please keep those who are closest to you in your thoughts and prayers, family, friends who treat you like family, the community of faith that gathers around you.

Today please keep those most vulnerable in your thoughts and prayers, the homeless, the unemployed, the sick, those near death, and those who feel God is far away from them.

Friday April 17, 2020

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Today's Prayer

Faithful Lord, throughout time You have provided us with people who have borne witness to Your steadfast love and Your desire for the world. You have given us the prophets of old, the covenantal law, and Holy Scripture. You and You alone have provided us with those who have passed on the faith which You inspire. Now Lord, in the last of time, You have redeemed us all through the glorious resurrection of Your beloved son. Give us all a full measure of faith, that in all the times of this day and the days to come, we may continue to be inspired by Your witness made manifest in the world in which we live. In Jesus' name we pray these things. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Today we especially pray for all those people who have borne witness to us about a closer relationship with God. Our parents, our Sunday school teachers, our friends, our pastors, our children, and the strangers among us who allow God's light to permeate through their actions.

We also pray for those scientists who continually work with previously unknown diseases who diligently work to provide antidotes to keep God's children safe and protected.

Saturday April 18, 2020

1 Peter: 1:1-9

¹Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ²who have been chosen and destined by God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood:

May grace and peace be yours in abundance.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith — being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls

Today's Prayer

Gracious Lord, You have made us who we are. Allow Your Word and Your Spirit to guide our days that we might be instruments of Your grace and mercy in the world around us. You strengthen us in times of peril and provide us with comfort and peace in times of great distress. Most of all, You and You alone allow us to feel and sense that in You we are all "Liked, Accepted, and unconditionally Loved." Allow us Lord to share the gift of Your salvation with all those whom we encounter, whether we meet face to face, by letter, by phone, or by technology. In Jesus' name we pray these things. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Today please keep all your brothers and sisters in Christ in Your thoughts and prayers.

Today remember those who are not able to experience the abundant life that our God so richly offers to all.

Sunday April 19, 2020

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name

Today's Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in You and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Please pray for the people on our prayer list