

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

Monday July 13, 2020

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Prayer: Almighty and gracious God, You and You alone reveal wisdom and truth among Your people through the Word that has been spoken and lived. Allow our hearts to receive this Word that we might go forth with great joy and be led out into the world bringing a word of peace that can only come from You. 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

Tuesday July 14, 2020

Psalms 27

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

²When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.

³ Though an army encamp against me,
 my heart shall not fear;
 though war rise up against me,
 yet I will be confident.

⁴ One thing I asked of the LORD,
 that will I seek after:
 to live in the house of the LORD
 all the days of my life,
 to behold the beauty of the LORD,
 and to inquire in his temple.

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
 in the day of trouble;
 he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
 he will set me high on a rock.

⁶ Now my head is lifted up
 above my enemies all around me,
 and I will offer in his tent
 sacrifices with shouts of joy;
 I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud,
 be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸ "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"
 Your face, LORD, do I seek.

⁹ Do not hide your face from me.
 Do not turn your servant away in anger,
 you who have been my help.
 Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,
 O God of my salvation!

¹⁰ If my father and mother forsake me,
 the LORD will take me up.

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD,
 and lead me on a level path
 because of my enemies.

¹² Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
 for false witnesses have risen against me,
 and they are breathing out violence.

¹³ I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
 in the land of the living.

¹⁴ Wait for the LORD;
 be strong, and let your heart take courage;
 wait for the LORD!

Prayer: Gracious Lord, only through You can we find comfort and peace and so we seek Your will. Only through You can we feel and experience unconditional love and so we long for You. See Your children in this life longing to be in Your presence and allow us a measure of confidence and hope that we now and forever dwell within Your loving arms. 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 July 15, 2020

Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13

- ¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.
- ²To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.
- ³Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.
- ⁴Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.
- ⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.
- ⁶You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.
- ⁷You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
- ⁸Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
- ⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God
is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.
- ¹⁰You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- ¹¹You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- ¹²May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.
- ¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with
grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

Prayer: Creative God, throughout all time and all place You offer us glimpses of the reign which dwells among us, yet the burdens of our days try to separate us from Your loving purpose of our lives. Allow us to sense and feel that even now You still the roaring of the seas, allow our eyes to witness the abundance that You continually provide. Allow our lives to grow and flourish knowing that we are being fed and sustained by the very Word You provide. 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 July 16, 2020

Psalm 28

¹To you, O LORD, I call;
my rock, do not refuse to hear me,
for if you are silent to me,

I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.
² Hear the voice of my supplication,
as I cry to you for help,
as I lift up my hands
toward your most holy sanctuary.^[a]
³ Do not drag me away with the wicked,
with those who are workers of evil,
who speak peace with their neighbors,
while mischief is in their hearts.
⁴ Repay them according to their work,
and according to the evil of their deeds;
repay them according to the work of their hands;
render them their due reward.
⁵ Because they do not regard the works of the LORD,
or the work of his hands,
he will break them down and build them up no more.
⁶ Blessed be the LORD,
for he has heard the sound of my pleadings.
⁷ The LORD is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts;
so I am helped, and my heart exults,
and with my song I give thanks to him.
⁸ The LORD is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.
⁹ O save your people, and bless your heritage;
be their shepherd, and carry them forever.

Prayer: God of strength; be for us a sure foundation and a fortress of our trust and confidence. Allow our hearts to rest in You and You alone. Forge in us a Will to consistently share a message of peace in a world of unrest. Protect us from our enemies and restore our hope in the promises that You so freely share with all. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Hospitals, nursing homes, other health care facilities
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Friday July 17, 2020

Romans 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and

those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Prayer: Steadfast Lord, indeed You are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Give these same qualities to us O Lord. When we are too quick to judge impart wisdom to be gracious. When we are too quick to seek retribution, remind us of Your great compassion. When the world creates in us anger or hostility, instill in us a sense of Your purpose that we be slow to anger. When it feels as though we need to “strike back” against our enemies, inspire us to a place of steadfast love. 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 July 18, 2020

Psalm 29

- ¹ Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- ² Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.
- ³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.
- ⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
- ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- ⁶ He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- ⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
- ⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- ⁹ The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,^[a]
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, “Glory!”
- ¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
- ¹¹ May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Prayer: God of all, Your steadfast love always stands before our eyes, for You, O Lord have come among Your people in the past, have taken on human form and displayed the lengths to which Your love endures for humanity, and continues to come to us each day renewed in Your Spirit. Uplift us, O Lord, and allow us to continue to serve You, always seeking to promote Your will for the whole of the earth. 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 July 18, 2020

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Prayer: Almighty God, we thank You for planting in us the seed of Your word. By Your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.