

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

Monday August 24, 2020

Isaiah 51:1-6

- ¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
- ²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
- ³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
- ⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
- ⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
- ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, You call us to “listen” for Your voice and “look” for Your presence. Open our ears, our eyes, our minds, and our hearts to seek Your presence in the world around us. When we “hear”, “see”, “realize”, and “feel” Your presence among us, allow our lives to be dedicated to follow. 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 August 25, 2020

Psalm 42

¹ As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.

When shall I come and behold
the face of God?

³ My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”

⁴ These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng,^[a]
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help ⁶ and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your cataracts;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.

⁸ By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I say to God, my rock,
“Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?”

¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”

¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, our hearts long for You, as a deer longs for flowing streams. Allow us to be faithful to the steadfast love which You continually display to us. Grant us hope that in all times and in all places, Your hand will guide us and allow us to feel Your divine love dwelling within and among us all. We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. 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 August 26, 2020

Psalm 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because
of your
steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your
word
above all things.

³When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your
right hand shall save me.

⁸You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the
works of your
hands.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, we give You thank and praise with our whole hearts. For You and You alone share glorious gifts with the world due to Your steadfast love and faithfulness. You are our Rock in times of weakness. You are great even when the world seems diminished by sin. In the midst of sorrow and suffering You keep us safe. Your steadfast love endures forever, never abandon the works of Your hands. 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 August 27, 2020

Psalm 43

¹ Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against an ungodly people;
from those who are deceitful and unjust
deliver me!

² For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
why have you cast me off?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because of the oppression of the enemy?

³ O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

Prayer: God of refuge; when we stumble O Lord, we trust in You. When we find ourselves in the midst of pride and arrogance, Let us humble ourselves before You. We ask Lord, that You be a sure and certain “Rock” within my life. Anchor us as only You can with complete trust and faith that You would always be by our side. 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 August 28, 2020

Romans 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Prayer: Gracious God, You have knit Your people together in ways that we simply cannot fully understand. You have allowed each of us the gift of being transformed continually by Your desire that our lives be continually renewed. We, who have many different and abundant gifts gather as ONE body! We belong, as always to You and You alone, yet we belong to one another. Allow each of our individual gifts to come together to form a beautiful tapestry of Your own making, that the world would know of Your steadfast love to us all! 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 August 29, 2020

Psalm 44:1-8

¹ We have heard with our ears, O God,
our ancestors have told us,
what deeds you performed in their days,
in the days of old:
² you with your own hand drove out the nations,
but them you planted;
you afflicted the peoples,
but them you set free;
³ for not by their own sword did they win the land,
nor did their own arm give them victory;
but your right hand, and your arm,
and the light of your countenance,
for you delighted in them.

⁴ You are my King and my God;
you command^[a] victories for Jacob.
⁵ Through you we push down our foes;
through your name we tread down our assailants.
⁶ For not in my bow do I trust,
nor can my sword save me.
⁷ But you have saved us from our foes,
and have put to confusion those who hate us.
⁸ In God we have boasted continually,
and we will give thanks to your name forever.

Prayer: Almighty Lord, Our ancestors have heard Your voice in the past and moved to form and shape Your holy church. Allow our lives to be dedicated to sharing Your continuing story with a new generation and a new people, that the story of Your enduring presence, grace and mercy would continue a new generation that all might give thanks to Your name forever. 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 August 30, 2020

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Prayer: O God, with all Your faithful followers of every age, we praise You, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of Your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.