



# ST. MICHAEL'S

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Our mission is to celebrate and share God's love in Jesus Christ*

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# PRAYER SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026

## **GREETING**

God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**have mercy on us.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

O Lord, I cry to you for help.

**In the morning my prayer comes before you.**

Let my mouth be full of your praise  
**and your glory all the day long.**

Every day will I bless you,  
**and praise your name forever and ever.**

Awesome 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 seas that are far away.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.**

You redeem my life from the grave,  
**and crown me with mercy and steadfast love.**

Lord, hear my prayer,  
**and let my cry come before you.**

## **MARTIN LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray: We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our

souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

**Amen.**

**PSALMODY:** Psalm 29 (*Read Responsively*)

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**<sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

**<sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**<sup>6</sup> the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**<sup>8</sup> The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

**<sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup> O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

*Silence for reflection.*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYERS**

Ever-living God, strengthen and sustain pastors and bishops especially Rev. Christopher Bruesehoff, our Pastor, Rev. Christa Compton, our Bishop, that with patience and understanding they may love and care for your people. Grant that together they may follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. This month we pray for the children, youth and family ministry leaders of our church participating in the ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza. We pray that they will grow and be strengthened for ministry through this time of spiritual renewal, continuing education, networking and mutual support. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; help us to support our partners in ministry, especially the Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Social Ministries, Cross Roads Outdoor Ministries, and ELCA World Hunger, for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, we lift before you all who govern, especially our President, Donald Trump, our Governor, Phil Murphy, our Mayor David Fleisher, all the legislators and members of the judiciary. May those who hold power understand that it is a trust from you to be used, not for personal glory or profit, but for the service of the

people. Drive from us cynicism, selfishness, and corruption; grant in your mercy just and honest government; and give us grace to live together in unity and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Gracious God, your Son called on you to forgive his enemies while he was suffering shame and death. Lead our enemies and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

God of all good gifts, your Son gathered children into his arms and blessed them. Help us to understand our youth as they grow in years and in knowledge of your world. Give us compassion when they face temptations and experience failures. Teach us to encourage their search for truth and value in their lives. Help us to appreciate their ideals and sympathize with their frustrations; that with them we may look for a better world than either we or they have known; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

By your word, eternal God, your creation sprang forth, and we were given the breath of life. By your word, eternal God, death is overcome, Christ is raised from the tomb, and we are given new life in the power of your Spirit. May we boldly proclaim this good news in our words and our deeds, rejoicing always in your powerful

presence; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

Merciful God, your healing power is everywhere about us.

Strengthen those who work among the sick; give them courage and confidence in all they do. Encourage them when their efforts seem futile or when death prevails. Increase their trust in your power even to overcome death and pain and crying. May they be thankful for every sign of health you give, and humble before the mystery of your healing grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

God, our creator, by your holy prophet Jeremiah you taught your ancient people to seek the welfare of the cities in which they lived. We commend our neighborhood to your care, that it might be kept free from social strife and decay. Give us strength of purpose and concern for others, that we may create here a community of justice and peace where your will may be done; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, who in your self-emptying love gathered up and reconciled all creation to the Father. Innumerable galaxies of the heavens worship you. Creatures that grace the earth rejoice in you. All those in the deepest seas bow to you in adoration. As with them we give you praise, grant that we may cherish the earth, our home, and live in harmony with this good creation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Today we pray for ELCA outdoor ministries as they recruit young adults to serve in outdoor and urban summer camp ministries across the country. We ask that the Spirit would stir these young

adults to share their faith, energy and diverse gifts with children, youth and adults. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

God of liberation, you saw your people as slaves in Egypt and delivered them from captivity; you see works of violence and weep. Relieve the suffering of all who are experiencing abuse or violence. Grant them peace of mind and a renewed faith in your protection and care. Protect us all from the violence of others; help us to bring offenders to justice; keep us safe from the weapons of hate; and restore us to tranquility and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, Creator of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings of life. Above all we bless you for your immeasurable love in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with thankful hearts we praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving ourselves to your service and by living in your gifts of holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all worship and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed, especially those we name aloud...and those we hold in our hearts. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Help us to receive your word with believing hearts, so that, confident in your promises, we may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we may follow with due devotion the faith of blessed Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, who, for spreading the faith, merited the crown of martyrdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

Let us pray together.

**O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The God of love, Father,  $\ddagger$  Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.

**Amen.**

### *ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS*

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