



ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



PRAYER SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2024

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 119:1-8 (*Read Responsively*)

- ¹ Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!
- ² **Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,**
who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.
- ⁴ **You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.**
- ⁵ Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!
- ⁶ **Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.**
- ⁷ I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.
- ⁸ **I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.**

Silence for reflection.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PRAYERS

Ever-living God, strengthen and sustain pastors and bishops especially Rev. Christopher Bruesehoff, our Pastor, Rev. Tracie Bartholomew, our Bishop and Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, our Presiding 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 give thanks for our Indigenous neighbors and siblings in Christ, whose diverse gifts, traditions and wisdom help shape and enrich society and the church. We pray for Indigenous ministries and faith communities in the ELCA

and the work of ELCA Indigenous Ministries and Tribal Relations, and we ask God to guide and further the work of our church and society to build better, right and just relationships with Indigenous peoples; 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, Joseph Biden, our Governor, Phil Murphy, our Mayor, David Fleischer, 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 and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.

Gracious God, none who trust in your Son can be separated from your love. Give to those who live alone peace and contentment in their solitude, hope and fulfillment in their love of you, and joy and companionship in their relations with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, our refuge and strength, our present help in time of trouble, care for those who tend the needs of the sick. Strengthen them in body and spirit. Refresh them when weary; console them when anxious; comfort them in grief; and hearten them in discouragement. Be with us all, and give us peace at all times and in every way; through Christ our peace.

Amen.

God, our creator, you have ordered seedtime and harvest, sunshine and rain. Give to all who work the land fair compensation for the work of their hands. Grant that the people of this and every nation may give thanks to you for food, drink, and all that sustains life; may use with care the land and water from which these good things come; and may honor the laborers who produce them; 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 poll workers, local, county and statewide election officials. 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.

Lord Christ, you came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As we go through the trials of life, help us to realize that you are with us at all times and in all things; that we have no secrets from you; and that your loving grace enfolds us for eternity. In the security of your embrace we pray.

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. We thank 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...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.

A prayer from Soren Kierkegaard: "Great Companion, You have loved us first. May we never forget that You are love, So that this sure conviction might triumph in our hearts over the whirling of the world, Over the inquietude of the soul, Over the anxiety for the future, Over the fright of the past, Over the distress of the moment. May this conviction discipline our soul so that our hearts might remain faithful and sincere in the love which we bear to all those we love as ourselves."

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 glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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