

# St. Michael's

LUTHERAN CHURCH



## PRAYER SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021

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## GREETING

LEADER: Grace and peace from God our Father and  
the Lord Jesus Christ,

**ALL: Praised be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, the Father of all mercies, and the God of all  
consolation.**

## DIALOGUE

Holy is the Lord, the Almighty,

**He was, he is, and he is to come.**

He is worthy of glory and honor and power.

**He created all things. By his will they came to be.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain;

**worthy to take the scroll and break its seals.**

By his blood he purchased for God

**people of every race and tongue, of every folk and nation.**

Christ made of them a kingdom

**and priests to serve our God.**

And they shall reign on earth forever.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## MARTIN LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

LEADER: 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. **ALL: Amen.**

**PSALMODY: Psalm 19:7-14** (*Read together*)

P: <sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the  
testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**ALL:** <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the  
commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the  
eyes.

P: <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**ALL:** <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

P: <sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

**ALL:** <sup>12</sup>Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

P: <sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

**ALL:** <sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

*Silence for Reflection*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

LEADER: Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **ALL: Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

LEADER: For the people and ministries of St. Michael's, for our work together to serve our neighbor, share the story of Jesus, create vibrant communities of faith and reflect the radiant light of God's love, grace and justice in the world; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: 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.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself. We praise and bless you for those

whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your name; especially today we pray for the Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council, Cross Roads Outdoor Ministries, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Social Ministries and ELCA World Hunger, for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: 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.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Today we give thanks for the give thanks for women today and throughout church history who have served as reformers and leaders, helping ground our church, institutions and ministries in the good news of Jesus Christ and the work God calls us to do in the world; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**ALL Amen.**

LEADER: Look with mercy, gracious God, upon our elders, who strengthen our congregations and ministries with their experience, wisdom and passion for doing God's work in the world. We ask the Spirit to stir our creativity in reaching out to and engaging with elders who are homebound or in assisted-living facilities or senior communities; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us coworkers in your creation. Today we pray for people and communities impacted by recent hurricanes, flooding, severe weather and wildfires, and for those working to recover from natural disasters. We pray that all will find comfort, strength and hope in God's loving presence and in the response and support of caring neighbors, faith communities, disaster response volunteers, Lutheran Disaster Response, and the global community of siblings in Christ.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: God, our refuge and strength, you have bound us together in a common life. Today we pray for all those suffering from conflict, civil unrest or violence, especially Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Myanmar and the Middle East. We pray that God will protect and care for people who endure conflict; have been displaced from their homes and nations; suffer loss, despair, persecution or trauma; and long for peace, healing and stability. We give thanks for the work we do together through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA Witness in Society, ELCA World Hunger and our partner organizations. In all our conflicts, help us to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, to listen for your voice amid competing claims, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: Almighty God, we lift before you all who govern, especially our President, Joseph Biden, our Governor, Phil Murphy, our Mayor, Susan Shin Angulo, 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.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: Holy Trinity, one God, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. Make us, who came from many nations with many languages, a united

people that delights in our many different gifts. Defend our liberties, and give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our sovereign and our Savior.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: We give thanks for the bounty of autumn and the people who tend crops and orchards that nourish and sustain us. We pray that we can work together year-round in our communities to help our food-insecure neighbors find convenient, consistent, affordable sources of healthy food.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: O God, give us grace to set a good example to all among whom we live, to be just and true in all our dealings, to be strict and conscientious in the discharge of every duty; pure and temperate in all enjoyment, gracious and generous and courteous toward all; so that the mind of Jesus Christ may be formed in us and all may know that we are his disciples; in whose name we pray.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: 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. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Especially, today, we pray for... . 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.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: Let us pray together:

**ALL: 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.**

LEADER: Let us pray with confidence:

**ALL: 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.**

### **BLESSING**

LEADER: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever.

**ALL: Amen.**

