



The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for All Seasons
Seasons of Needing Forgiveness

Christ Lutheran Church

Thursday February 15th, 2018

As We Gather—We submit ourselves to the discipline of Lent, a time for catechesis: learning and growing in the faith. We will hear from the Third Chief Part of the Catechism, the Lord's Prayer. As this first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, is all about facing up to and confessing our sin and need of forgiveness, life, and salvation, we begin with the Fifth Petition, "And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." It's the second half of that sentence that concerns us. Can we say we have honestly forgiven someone who has hurt us if we then stay away from that person in the future? The first effect of sin is separation. Forgiveness is serious business both for our eternal destiny and for our daily peace. With ashes, we remember that on our own we are perishing—our sins are killing us. But we have this promise: if we confess our sins, God, who is merciful and just, will forgive our sins.

Image: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." *Genesis 3:19*

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Mission Statement

United in Christ through Word and Sacrament to proclaim Christ to a waiting world.

WELCOME!

We extend a cordial welcome to everyone in the name of our crucified and risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Visitors are asked to sign the guest book at the entrance of the church and are always welcome in our midst.

Order of Worship—(as printed in the bulletin)

-Ringing of the Bell (Chimes)

-Sharing of the Peace—(Please greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.) [Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3]

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN—"Savior, When in Dust to Thee" (LSB 419)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

ADDRESS—From LSB Altar Book

Pastor: Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

LITANY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY—*From LSB Altar Book*

Pastor: O Lord,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: O Christ,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: O Lord,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: O Christ,

People: hear us.

Pastor: God the Father in heaven,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: God the Holy Spirit,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: Be gracious to us.

People: Spare us, good Lord.

Pastor: Be gracious to us.

People: Help us, good Lord.

Pastor: By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

People: Help us, good Lord.

Pastor: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

People: Help us, good Lord.

Pastor: We poor sinners implore You

People: to hear us, O Lord.

Pastor: To prosper the preaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

Pastor: To draw all to Yourself; to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all;

People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

Pastor: To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

People: we implore You to hear us.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: grant us Your peace.

Pastor: O Christ,

People: hear us.

Pastor: O Lord,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: O Christ,

People: have mercy.

Pastor: O Lord,

People: have mercy. Amen

Pastor: O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust, and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank You for bringing us to the season of Lent. As Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, is teaching us to pray in the words of the Lord's Prayer, grant that these words and our prayer open our hearts to receive more of Your mercy, that we may be merciful to others in Your grace and love; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING—*Joel 2:12–19* (Return to the Lord.)

¹²“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. ¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, “Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” ¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. ¹⁹The LORD answered and said to his people, “Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Hebrews 12:2*

Pastor: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

People: the founder and perfecter of our faith,

Pastor: who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,

People: and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

EPISTLE—*2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10* (Be reconciled to God)

²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, “In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and

dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Joel 2:13b*

Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21* (The discipline of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

²“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶[Jesus said:] “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED—Nicene Creed (*as found on the very back page of your hymnal*)

HYMN OF THE DAY “From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee” (LSB 607)

SERMON—“Seasons of Needing Forgiveness” (*Fifth Petition of the Lord’s Prayer*)

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*please stand*)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their need.

Almighty God and Father, as we enter this holy season of Lent, may it be to us a time of renewal for every season of our life. Through Your Word, give us repentant hearts and the assurance of Your forgiveness. Help us to become Your forgiving people by filling us with Your peace and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We give You thanks for all the saints who have in their time witnessed to the way of the cross of Christ by their faith and endurance. We especially thank You for Mary, mother of our Lord, who faithfully followed her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, from His cradle, through His death, to the joy of His resurrection. Help us to witness and confess saving faith in every season and circumstance of our life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give wisdom and strength to all pastors and workers in Your Church to faithfully feed and guide Your people to lives of sincere prayer and holy living. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: When we call upon You as our Father, move us by Your Holy Spirit to remain in Your Word through which we receive Your grace, forgiveness, and protection from all evil. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Help all who serve in the public, civil realm of service to know the difference between Your forgiveness of sin and the just punishment of evil. Give to all who are in prison new hearts of repentance and faith to endure. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Bring your wholeness and healing to all who are sick or injured, [especially . . .]. May each one look to You for life and health. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: With reverence and affection, we remember before You all our departed friends and relatives whom You have received by their faith in the grace of Christ. We ask You to keep us faithful through all our days that we may be gathered together with them in Your kingdom that has no end. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give

You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD (*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*)

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER (*as found on the very back page of your hymnal*)

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Statement on Communion—(please read before taking the Sacrament)

The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His

table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Synod—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. (1 Cor. 11:26-27ff).

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us” (LSB 915)
“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” (LSB 563)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

People: and His mercy endureth forever.

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, for Your Son's body and blood, which He offered on the cross for our forgiveness and for the life of the world. May He continue to live in us that we may bring that same forgiveness to everyone; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord has forgiven your trespasses; His forgiveness shine through you to your neighbor.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

People: Amen.

Pastor: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you always.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “O Lord, throughout These Forty Days” (LSB 418)

At this time we leave our service in silent prayer contemplating and meditating on our Lord Jesus' passion in suffering and dying on the cross for our sins.

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Officiant: Rev. John M. Taggatz

Organist: Ila Robbert

Elder: Myron Wacker

Altar Guild: Karen Tesch

Acolyte: Esther Mundschau

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR LENT AT CHRIST AND CALVARY—

Lenten midweek services are on Wednesdays at Calvary starting at 7:15pm with Soup Suppers from 5:30-7pm and on Thursdays at CELC at 7pm)... Lent Starts with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday Feb. 14th and continues through to Easter on April 1st—

The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for All Seasons (during our Lenten Midweek services)...

1. Ash Wednesday: Seasons of Needing Forgiveness, *Fifth Petition*
-Wednesday February 14th at Calvary—7:15pm
-Thursday February 15th at CELC—7:00pm
2. Lenten Midweek 2: Seasons of Lifting Up the Lord, *First Petition*
-Wednesday February 21st at Calvary—7:15pm
-Thursday February 22nd at CELC—7:00pm
3. Lenten Midweek 3: Seasons of Wondering Who's in Control, *Second Petition*
-Wednesday February 28th at Calvary—7:15pm
-Thursday March 1st at CELC—7:00pm
4. Lenten Midweek 4: Seasons of Seeking God's Will, *Third Petition*
-Wednesday March 7th at Calvary—7:15pm
-Thursday March 8th at CELC—7:00pm
5. Lenten Midweek 5: Seasons of Thanks for Simple Things, *Fourth Petition*
-Wednesday March 14th at Calvary—7:15pm
-Thursday March 15th at CELC—7:00pm
6. Lenten Midweek 6: Seasons for Standing Up to Evil, *Sixth and Seventh Petitions*
-Wednesday March 21st at Calvary—7:15pm
-Thursday March 22nd at CELC—7:00pm