

LUTHER'S CATECHISM



The Lord's Prayer
March 18, 2020

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright | CW 412

Please stand.

OPENING DIALOGUE

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. But I have also sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. I tend to doubt your power to answer my prayers. I fail to remember that you are always ready to listen, if only I were willing to speak. I too often ask for you to act according to my desires, rather than asking for your will to be done. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

M: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYER

M: Let us pray—Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

SCRIPTURE READING

James 4:13-15

¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into this or that city, spend a year there, do business, and make a profit.” ¹⁴ You do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? Indeed, it is a mist that appears for a little while and then disappears. ¹⁵ Instead, it is better for you to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live, and we will do this or that.” (EHV)

PSALM 116

Read responsively from the hymnal.

**ALL: I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

M: I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;
He heard my cry for mercy.

**C: Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.**

M: The LORD is gracious and righteous;
When I was in great need, he saved me.

**ALL: I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

M: For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,
My eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

**C: How can I repay the LORD
For all his goodness to me?**

M: I will lift up the cup of salvation
And call on the name of the LORD.

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**ALL: I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:7-15

⁷“And when you pray, do not babble like the heathen, since they think that they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸However do not be like them, because your Father knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹Therefore pray like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. ¹⁰Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹Give us today our daily bread. ¹²Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. ¹³Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.’ ¹⁴“Indeed if you forgive people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive people their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.” (EHV)

SEASONAL RESPONSE

M: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

C: **By his wounds we are healed.**

HYMN

O Lord, You Have in Your Pure Grace | CW 407

SERMON

CATECHISM READING

M: THE ADDRESS: Our Father in heaven. What does this mean?

C: **With those words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that we may pray to Him as boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.**

M: THE FIRST PETITION: Hallowed be your name. What does this mean?

C: **God's name is certainly holy by itself, but we pray in this petition that we to may keep it holy.**

M: How is God's name kept holy?

C: **God's name is kept holy when His Word is taught in its truth and purity, and we as children of God lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But whoever teaches and lives contrary to God's Word dishonors God's name among us. Keep us from doing this, dear Father in heaven!**

M: THE SECOND PETITION: Your kingdom come. What does this mean?

C: **God's kingdom certainly comes by itself even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us and to many others.**

M: How does God's Kingdom come?

C: God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead a godly life now on earth and forever in heaven.

M: THE THIRD PETITION: Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. What does this mean?

C: God's good and gracious will certainly is done without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

M: How is God's will done?

C: God's will is done when He breaks and defeats every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world and our sinful flesh, which try to prevent us from keeping God's name holy and letting His kingdom come. And God's will is done when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and in the faith as long as we live. This is His good and gracious will.

M: THE FOURTH PETITION: Give us today our daily bread. What does this mean?

C: God surely gives daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

M: What, then, is meant by daily bread?

C: Daily bread includes everything that we need for our bodily welfare, such as food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, fields and flocks, money and goods, a godly family, good workers, good government, honest leaders, good citizens, good weather, peace and order, health, a good name, loyal friends and good neighbors.

M: THE FIFTH PETITION: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. What does this mean?

C: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins or because of them deny our prayers; for we are worthy of none of the things for which we ask, neither have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will forgive from the heart and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

M: THE SIXTH PETITION: Lead us not into temptation. What does this mean?

C: **God surely tempts no one to sin, but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world and our flesh may not deceive us or lead us into false belief, despair and other great and shameful sins; and though we are tempted by them, we pray that we may overcome and win the victory.**

M: THE SEVENTH PETITION: But deliver us from evil. What does this mean?

C: **In conclusion we pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would deliver us from every evil that threatens body and soul, property and reputation, and finally when our last hour comes, grant us a blessed end and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to Himself in heaven.**

M: THE DOXOLOGY: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen. What does this mean?

C: **We can be sure that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and are heard by Him, for He Himself has commanded us so to pray and has promised to hear us. Therefore we say, "Amen". "Yes it shall be so."**

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. Please fill out the friendship register as it is passed.

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

C: I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

M: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN

In the Hour of Trial | CW 116





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