



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Minnesota South District

... cultivating leaders intentionally engaged in the mission of God

Minnesota South District Prayer Vigil Guide

Friday, June 12, 2020 | 12 – 1 p.m.

Individuals, Bible study groups, and congregations may follow along with this prayer vigil guide while watching the vigil on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#).

The prayer vigil will be broken into seven focus points, each with a Psalm reading, Gospel reading, guided prayer, hymn or spiritual song, and time for personal prayer:

1. [Relief from the virus](#)
2. [Healing for those afflicted](#)
3. [Hope for those in despair](#)
4. [Peace & unity](#)
5. [Lament](#)
6. [Justice](#)
7. [God's mercy & grace](#)

Focus #1: Relief from the virus

Psalm 46

Read by Pastor Mark Loder, St. James Lutheran Church, Howard Lake, & Litchfield Circuit Visitor

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- ³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah*
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
- ⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*
- ⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.

¹⁰“Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

Read by Pastor Richard Moore, St. Martin Lutheran Church, Winona, & Winona Circuit Visitor

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Guided prayer

Led by Pastor Tom Evans, Emanuel Lutheran Church, Inver Grove Heights, & MN South District Second Vice President

Hymn: “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness,” verse 1 (LSB 849)

Led by Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato, worship team members

Praise the One who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris’ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
Healing ev’ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
With the very Bread of peace.

Personal prayer time

A focus / meditation verse is below

“Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”

(Psalm 46:10)

Focus #2: Healing for those afflicted

Psalm 41

Read by Pastor Russell Reed, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Brownton, & McLeod Circuit Visitor

- ¹ Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;
- ² the LORD protects him and keeps him alive;
he is called blessed in the land;
you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.
- ³ The LORD sustains him on his sickbed;
in his illness you restore him to full health.
- ⁴ As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me;
heal me, for I have sinned against you!"
- ⁵ My enemies say of me in malice,
"When will he die, and his name perish?"
- ⁶ And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words,
while his heart gathers iniquity;
when he goes out, he tells it abroad.
- ⁷ All who hate me whisper together about me;
they imagine the worst for me.
- ⁸ They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him;
he will not rise again from where he lies."
- ⁹ Even my close friend in whom I trusted,
who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
- ¹⁰ But you, O LORD, be gracious to me,
and raise me up, that I may repay them!
- ¹¹ By this I know that you delight in me:
my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
- ¹² But you have upheld me because of my integrity,
and set me in your presence forever.
- ¹³ Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting!
Amen and Amen.

Gospel: Matthew 15:29-31

Read by Pastor James King, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Gaylord, & Arlington Circuit Visitor

²⁹ Jesus went on from there and walked beside the Sea of Galilee. And he went up on the mountain and sat down there. ³⁰ And great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others, and they put them at his feet, and he healed them, ³¹ so that the crowd wondered, when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled healthy, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they glorified the God of Israel.

Guided prayer

Led by Pastor David Mumme, Trinity Lutheran Church, Waterville, & MN South District First Vice President

Hymn: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness," verse 2 (LSB 849)

Led by Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato, worship team members

Praise the One who blessed the children

With a strong, yet gentle, word;

Praise the One who drove out demons

With the piercing, two-edged sword.

Praise the One who brings cool water

To the desert's burning sand;

From this Well comes living water,

Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Personal prayer time

A focus / meditation verse is below

The LORD sustains him on his sickbed;

in his illness you restore him to full health.

(Psalm 41:3)

Focus #3: Hope for those in despair

Psalm 130

Read by Pastor Joel Haak, Trinity Lutheran Church, Rochester, & Rochester Circuit Visitor

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

² O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

⁶ my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

⁸ And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

Gospel: Luke 18:34-43

*Read by Pastor Vue Lee, King of Kings Lutheran Church, Roseville
(Note: NIV translation is read during video)*

³⁴ But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. ³⁵ As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶ And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. ³⁷ They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." ³⁸ And he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ³⁹ And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁰ And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹ "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me recover my sight." ⁴² And Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight; your faith has made you well." ⁴³ And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Guided prayer

Led by Pastor Matthew Johnson, St. John Lutheran Church, Corcoran, & Northwest Suburban Circuit Visitor

Hymn: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness," verse 3 (LSB 849)

Led by Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato, worship team members

Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.

Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

Personal prayer time

A focus / meditation verse is below

O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

(Psalm 130:7)

Focus #4: Peace & unity

Psalm 133

Read by Pastor Paul Muther, Trinity Lutheran Church, Janesville, & Waseca Circuit Visitor

¹ Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!
² It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down on the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes!
³ It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing,
life forevermore.

Gospel: John 16:29-33

Read by Pastor Larry Sipe, Trinity & Immanuel Lutheran Churches, Waseca

²⁹ His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰ Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God." ³¹ Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? ³² Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

Guided prayer

Led by Pastor Andrew Herzberg, Trinity Lutheran Church, Farmington, & Southeast Suburban Circuit Visitor

Spiritual song: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me," verse 1

Led by Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato, worship team members

I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Personal prayer time

A focus / meditation verse is below

Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!

(Psalm 133:1)

Focus #5: Lament

Psalm 6

*Read by Pastor Jesse Krusemark, Trinity & St. Paul Lutheran Churches, Waltham, & Austin Circuit Visitor
(Note: version chanted during video is from The Brotherhood Prayer Book: Revised Second Edition)*

- ¹ O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger,
nor discipline me in your wrath.
- ² Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing;
heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.
- ³ My soul also is greatly troubled.
But you, O LORD—how long?
- ⁴ Turn, O LORD, deliver my life;
save me for the sake of your steadfast love.
- ⁵ For in death there is no remembrance of you;
in Sheol who will give you praise?
- ⁶ I am weary with my moaning;
every night I flood my bed with tears;
I drench my couch with my weeping.
- ⁷ My eye wastes away because of grief;
it grows weak because of all my foes.
- ⁸ Depart from me, all you workers of evil,
for the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping.
- ⁹ The LORD has heard my plea;
the LORD accepts my prayer.
- ¹⁰ All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled;
they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment.

Gospel: Matthew 26:36-46

Read by Pastor Matthew Lane, Peace Lutheran Church, Faribault

- ³⁶ Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” ³⁷ And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” ³⁹ And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” ⁴⁰ And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? ⁴¹ Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ⁴² Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” ⁴³ And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. ⁴⁵ Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

Guided prayer

Led by Pastor Paul Sajban, Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Windom, & Worthington Circuit Visitor

Spiritual song: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me," verse 2

Led by Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato, worship team members

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Personal prayer time

A focus / meditation verse is below

In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord;
in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying;
my soul refuses to be comforted.

(Psalm 77:2)

Focus #6: Justice

Psalm 146

Read by Pastor Ryan Alvey, St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, & Southwest Suburban Circuit Visitor

¹Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in princes,

in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

⁴When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;

on that very day his plans perish.

⁵Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD his God,

⁶who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith forever;

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD watches over the sojourners;

he upholds the widow and the fatherless,

but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰The LORD will reign forever,

your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Praise the LORD!

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Read by Pastor Rudy Maurer, St. Paul & St. John Lutheran Churches, Amboy & Good Thunder, & Mankato Circuit Visitor

¹And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Guided prayer

Led by Pastor Steve Bielenberg, King of Kings Lutheran Church, Roseville

Spiritual song: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me," verse 3

Led by Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato, worship team members

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Personal prayer time

A focus / meditation verse is below

who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.

(Psalm 146:7)

Focus #7: God's mercy & grace

Psalm 103

*Read by Pastor Armand Boehme, Trinity Lutheran Church, Northfield
(Note: NKJV translation is read during video)*

- ¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
- ² Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
³ who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
⁴ who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
⁵ who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.
⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
⁸ The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
⁹ He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.
¹⁴ For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we are dust.
- ¹⁵ As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
¹⁶ for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.
¹⁷ But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
¹⁸ to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.
¹⁹ The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.
- ²⁰ Bless the LORD, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word,

obeying the voice of his word!
²¹Bless the LORD, all his hosts,
his ministers, who do his will!
²²Bless the LORD, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.
Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Gospel: John 1:14-18

Read by Pastor Juan Palm, Trinity Lutheran Church, Morristown

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Guided prayer

Read by Pastor Greg Snow, St. John Lutheran Church, Chaska, & South Carver County Circuit Visitor

Hymn / song: "Son of God, Eternal Savior," verses 1 – 4 (LSB 842)

Led by Woodbury Lutheran Church, Woodbury, worship team members

Son of God, eternal Savior,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory,
For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity,
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

As You, Lord, have lived for others,
So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted;
Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver,
Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty
Held in solemn trust will be.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion,
Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling,
By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
Stem our selfish greed of gain.

Son of God, eternal Savior,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
Hallows all our human race:
By Your praying, by Your willing
That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition:
Here on earth Your will be done.

Personal prayer time

A focus / meditation verse is below

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

(Psalm 103:8)

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All background hymns during the personal prayer time from The Hymnal Project, Michigan District LCMS, arrangements by Peter Prochnow. Hymns used were “Abide with Me,” “Alas and Did My Savior Bleed,” “Drawn to the Cross Which Thou Has Blessed,” “Dearest Jesus We Are Here,” “Go to Dark Gethsemane,” “All Praise to Thee My God This Night,” and “By Grace I’m Saved.”

Finally, a huge thank you to the worship team at Hosanna Lutheran Church, Mankato, for helping with “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” and “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” and to the worship team at Woodbury Lutheran Church, Woodbury, for helping with “Son of God, Eternal Savior.”