

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
 Surely His goodness and mercy shall DAILY attend you.
 Ponder anew what the Almighty can do as with His love He befriends you!
 ~Joachim Neander



We pray because God the Father has commanded us to pray and promises to hear us. Yet, when we pray with Jesus [His own prayer to His Father], we get much more than we ever ask for. Jesus compares prayer to knocking at the door of His Father's house. Like our earthly parents, God the Father opens the door for us when we come to ask Him for something and lets us in. We therefore don't just get something from God when we pray; we receive the Father Himself, His company, and life with Him. That is the unexpected bonus of prayer!

~John Kleinig

Praying the Lord's Prayer forces us to look for things to thank and praise God for in our dark times, and it presses us to repent and seek forgiveness during times of prosperity and success. It disciplines us to bring every part of our lives to God.

~Timothy Keller

The Lord's Prayer may be committed to memory quickly,
 but it is slowly learned by heart.

~Frederick Denison Maurice

First, *Thy name, Thy kingdom, Thy will*; then, *Give us, Forgive us, Lead us, Deliver us*. The lesson is of more importance than we think.

In true worship the Father must be first, must be all.

~Andrew Murray

I am well aware I do not rightly know the Lord's Prayer, old and experienced doctor that I am! Like a babe I daily draw milk from the Lord's Prayer, and cannot get enough of it. The Lord's Prayer binds the people together, so that each prays with and for the other.

~Martin Luther



This year, using our theme: *Praying with an Open Heart*, we will spend Lent evening services studying God's gift of the best prayer outline, *The Lord's Prayer*. Each week, concluding with Easter Sunday, we will focus on a petition of the prayer. May this time of study and rededication be a blessing to us as we make the Lent journey to its destination: the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus!

Holy Week Worship

- ◆ Palm Sunday | March 29, 8 & 10:45am
- ◆ Maundy Thursday | April 2, 7pm
- ◆ Good Friday Tre-Ore | April 3, 12-3pm
- ◆ Good Friday Tenebrae | April 3, 7pm
- ◆ Easter Sunrise | April 5, 6:30am
- ◆ Resurrection of Our Lord | April 5, 8 & 10:45am

Lent Wednesday Schedule

- ◆ Soup Supper | 5:15pm
- ◆ Quiet Prayer | 6:15pm, Sanctuary
- ◆ Worship | 6:30pm,
with Children's Chat



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
 Lutheran Church & Early Learning Center
 ShepherdHillsChurch.org



6:30 PM

March 18, 2026

Lent Wednesday 5



✠ IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

Please enter quietly for worship and respect those who are praying.

QUIET PRAYER

This is quiet time for us to spend with our church Family and our Lord.
 If you wish, you may:

- take a prayer request paper as you enter the sanctuary
- fill it out with your request(s)
- fold and place in the baskets on the altar, at the foot of the cross

This prayer basket will be lifted up during the worship prayer time.

INVOCATION, OPENING SENTENCES *Pastor Ben Oesch Mt. 28:19; Ps. 19:14*

Pastor (P): In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (C): Amen!

P: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

ALL: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND FORGIVENESS *with Luther's Evening Prayer*

P: We pray together:

ALL: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

P: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven.

C: Amen!

HYMN # 766:1-5 "Our Father, Who from Heaven Above"

HOLY SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 30:7-9

Two things I ask of You, LORD; do not refuse me before I die: Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, "Who is the Lord?" Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.

Luke 12:29-32

Do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Matthew 6:9a, 11

Pray then like this: "Give us this day our daily bread."

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

P: These are the Words of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

CHILDREN'S CHAT *Jodie Stoltenow*

CATECHISM LEARNING

P: We pray in the Lord's Prayer, "Give us this day our daily bread." What is the meaning of "daily bread"?

C: **"Bread" means all that we need to sustain our lives on earth. "Daily" highlights how all the moments of every day of our lives depend on God's provision.**

ALL: **"In Him we live and move and have our being."** (Acts 17:28)

P: As our loving Creator, God already provides for the needs of His entire creation. Why, then, should we pray this petition?

Men/Boys: **We pray that, in humility, we would look to God for what we need each day and not worry about the future.**

Women/Girls: **We pray that we would receive all our physical blessings with thanks.**

C: **We pray that we would find contentment with what we have received.**

ALL: **"Look at the birds of the air: your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?! Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow. Humble yourselves, casting all your anxieties on God, because He cares for you. Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever!"** (Matthew 6:26,34; 1 Peter 5:6-7; Psalm 106:1)

P: God takes care of all of our daily needs. Beside thanking Him and being content, what else are we to do with our daily bread?

C: **We are to share with others in need and to include them in our prayers.**

ALL: **"If anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love merely in word or talk but in deed and in truth."** (1 John 3:17-18)

MESSAGE "Give Us Today Our Daily Bread" *Pastor Brad Stoltenow*

GUESTS, MEMBERS CONNECT *Please fill out the Connect Card, either by hand or with the QR code. Thank you!*

OFFERING *for giving options: ShepherdHillsChurch.org/Give*

VOLUNTARY *I Am Jesus' Little Lamb*

violin: Quaid Barnthson, Ben Barstad, Samantha McMahon; viola: Patrick Barnthson



OFFERING PRAYER

P: Holy God, every good gift comes from Your gracious hand. Receive these gifts in thanksgiving for Your goodness to us.

C: **Make of our lives a living sacrifice, that we may give witness to the world of the abundance of Your grace in Jesus Christ. Amen!**

PRAYERS

Rev. Daniel Paavola; Matthew 11:28; Psalm 34:15; 1 Peter 3:12

P: Dear Lord, rain on us this day our daily bread. Let us never forget the heaven from which it comes and the Hand that brings it here. Give us patience when the sky is empty. May we give thanks when the showers fall. Don't let us spoil Your gifts by asking, "Is this all?" Let the only wonder in our waiting be this: "Why would You ever go hungry for me? Why would You be thirsty enough to die? You did it because You love me."

C: **I thank You, Lord, and pray in the name of Your Son, who won for me both earthly and eternal gifts. Amen.**

P: Our Father in heaven, we offer these prayers to You. Jesus promised, "Come to me with your burdens, and I will give you rest." And we trust Your word that says, "The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayer." As the Holy Spirit cries out to You on our behalf, hear and respond according to Your loving and gracious will.

C: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

P: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C: **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.**

GOD'S WORD OF BLESSING

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: **Amen!**

HYMN # 880 "Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow"

☩ TO GOD ALONE ALL GLORY! ☩

When I go into a restaurant, the waitress who brings me my meal, the cook in the back who prepared it, the delivery men, the wholesalers, the workers in the food-processing factories, the butchers, the farmers, the ranchers, and everyone else in the economic food chain are all being used by God to "give me this day my daily bread."

~G.E. Veith

The reason [God commands us to pray the 4th Petition] is, of course, not in order to have us make our prayers an instruction to Him as to what He ought to give us, but in order to have us acknowledge and confess that He is already bestowing many blessings upon us and that He can and will give us still more. By our praying, therefore, we are instructing ourselves more than we are Him.

~Martin Luther