

In the 5th Petition, we have an enduring moment of peace for our souls. Here is a spa for the spirit. We're asking for what God has already provided in His Son and what He is pressing upon us even before we ask. When we ask for forgiveness, we are in the center of His will for us. If ever we've found what we're supposed to be doing, it's asking for, receiving, and giving forgiveness.

~Daniel Paavola

The LORD'S Prayer

Prayer is a remarkable opportunity that God offers His children. In the Lord's Prayer, we see a journey: we begin with our Father in heaven, walk with Him on earth, and call for Him to lift us safely back to heaven again. The Lord's Prayer shows us heaven as our Father's home. He has brought us to His home in His Son. ~Daniel Paavola

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

Christ Is Risen!

EASTER

at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

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



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



6:30 PM

March 25, 2026

Lent Wednesday 6



✠ 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 Stoltenow Mt 28:19b; 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

Psalms 32:1-5

P: Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.

ALL: When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. Day and night Your hand was heavy on me; my strength was dried up. Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover it up. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And You forgave the guilt of my sin.

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

C: Amen!

HYMN # 766:1-6 "Our Father, Who from Heaven Above"

HOLY SCRIPTURE

Mark 11:24-25

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

Psalms 65:2-3

You who answer prayer, to You all people will come. When we were overwhelmed by sins, You forgave our transgressions.

Matthew 6:9a, 12

Pray then like this: "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

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, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." While it may appear that forgiveness from God depends on our ability to forgive others, the Bible teaches us two complementary truths:

Men/Boys: First, God has forgiven the sins of the world solely for Jesus' sake, so we cannot earn forgiveness by forgiving others.

Women/Girls: Second, if we stubbornly refuse to forgive others, we reject God's forgiveness for them and for us.

ALL: "If You, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness, so that we can serve You with reverence." (Psalm 130:3-4)

P: As Christians, we pray that for Christ's sake we may know the joy and peace of being forgiven and of forgiving others. Why do we need God's forgiveness?

C: **We sin every day and deserve God's punishment. Without God's forgiveness, we cannot pray to God for anything and expect Him graciously to hear and answer. So forgiveness frees us by giving us peace with God.**

ALL: "Whoever conceals his sins will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy." (Proverbs 28:13)

P: Why is forgiveness important for our own life in Christ?

C: **Our need for God's forgiveness reminds us: We are no better than anyone else. His forgiveness enables us to forgive others, which also gives us peace with God.**

P: Forgiving others doesn't mean we will "forgive and forget." We ask our heavenly Father to free us from anger and resentment that may come with those memories. We give it all into God's hands and trust Him for healing.

ALL: "Love is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (1 Corinthians 13:4-5; Ephesians 4:32)

MESSAGE "Forgive Us Our Trespases, as We Forgive Others" *Pastor Ben Oesch*

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 *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

violin: Quaid Barnthson, Ben Barstad, Samantha Visnyei; 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

Matthew 11:28; Psalm 34:15; 1 Peter 3:12

P: Most merciful Father, our sins make us unworthy to ask anything of You. For the sake of Your dear Son, do not condemn us for our sins, but hear our cries for mercy and forgive us our trespasses. Enlivened by Your forgiveness, we too pledge to forgive willingly and sincerely and gladly do good to those who sin against us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **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 # 883 "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night"

✠ TO GOD ALONE ALL GLORY! ✠

To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you.

~C.S. Lewis

In Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their sins against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

~2 Corinthians 5:19

Forgiveness is unlocking the door to set someone free and realizing you were the prisoner.

~Max Lucado

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, bear with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgive each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

~Colossians 3:12a, 13