

**St. Luke's
LUTHERAN CHURCH
THREE DAYS OF PRAYER
JANUARY 5, 6 and 7, 2021**

“Seek the Lord and His strength, seek his presence continually”-1 Chronicles 16:11

How thankful we can be that once again we can enter into three days of prayers with LCMC congregations in the United States and around the globe! We are a church body which is strongly rooted in the truth of God's Word and in the belief that God is fully alive and calling us to follow Him.

Prayer is an ever-accessible gift and so as we enter into the new year of God's grace, 2021, we do so in the confidence that God is listening to our prayers and answering them in His perfect way.

For these Days of Prayer, please take time each day to pray for the concerns presented, adding whatever prayers the Holy Spirit places on your heart. You may join with others in prayer or do so on your own knowing that your brothers and sisters in Christ both near and far are also in communication with our good and gracious God.



JANUARY 5– CONFESSION

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:1.7

Read and pray using Psalm 32

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered. ² Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.³ For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up^[b] as by the heat of summer. ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD, “and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. ⁶ Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.⁷ You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.⁹ Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.¹⁰ Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.¹¹ Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Prayer based on Psalm 32

Gracious God You have so blessed us with Your forgiveness. When we keep silent about our sins, we suffer; we groan in pain. But as soon as we tell You of our sins, You forgive us and lift our suffering.

Almighty Father, we are often afraid to admit our wrongdoing. We forget to come to You for mercy. Help us remember to call out in prayer. Teach us Your will and the way You choose for us to go.

Your love surrounds us. We are glad and rejoice; we shout for joy in Your Love. Amen

Read and pray using James 4:1-17

4 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and

quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴ You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? ⁶ But he gives more grace. Therefore, it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. ¹¹ Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. ¹² There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?¹³ Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— ¹⁴ yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." ¹⁶ As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. ¹⁷ So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Prayer based on *James 4:1-17*

O LORD instruct us regarding the passions that are at war in our members: Teach us to recognize our excessive attachments to worldly things, lest by friendship with the world we become Your enemies.

Almighty God, please make us humble that we may receive Your grace; and let us not be proud, lest we find ourselves opposing You. Please help us to submit ourselves to You, and to resist the devil until he flees from us. As we draw near to You, You draw near to us. Please cleanse our hands, forgive our sins, purify our hearts, and make us single-minded in turning ever toward You.

Please teach us to mourn for the miserable state of Your Church in this world, the wretchedness and dejection she suffers in striving to walk in Your Way. Please guide us not to judge one another, as the judgment of *souls* is Yours alone; but let us not forget our obligation to judge *sins*, because for this You have given us Your law, and by this, our sins can be forgiven. All this we pray in Your own holy Name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Who is someone you need to forgive or need to receive forgiveness from? Pray for them, yourself and the work of reconciliation. Pray for the removal of arrogant pride which leads to control.

JANUARY 6, 2021 – PETITION

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

Ephesians 6:18

Read and pray using Psalm 86

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.² Preserve my life, for I am godly; save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.³ Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all the day. ⁴ Gladden the soul of your servant, to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. ⁵ For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.⁶ Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. ⁷ In the day of my trouble I call upon you, for you answer me. ⁸ There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. ⁹ All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. ¹⁰ For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name.¹² I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever. ¹³ For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol. ¹⁴ O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seeks my life, and they do not set you before them. ¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in

steadfast love and faithfulness.¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant and save the son of your maidservant. ¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, that those who hate me may see and be put to shame because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

1. What invitation does God have for you?
2. What are you lead to pray about?

A prayer based on *Psalm 86*

Precious Father,

You are the most high and there is no one like You. We praise You and worship Your Holy Name. You are forever by our side to love us, forgive us, and provide everything that we will ever need. Your ways are better than our ways. Help us so that we will always be thankful in times of plenty and in want. Lead us so that we will always trust in Your goodness.

LORD God, You faithfully restore Your people and have great love for us as we seek Your mercy in tender, heartfelt prayer. May we always be aware of the magnificence of Your constant presence and love in our life. May we always seek to love You and our brothers and sisters by Your great example. Remind us each day to bring all our troubles and concerns to You in prayer. Teach us to be patient and allow You to do Your holy work within us. Give us strength and courage to always trust in You. In the name of Jesus we pray these and all prayers, Amen

Heavenly Father, we come before You today to humbly ask for many things: please help America's leaders – that Your will would be made known to them, so that they would guide us in Your ways and make godly decisions for our country.

We ask that You be with all the persecuted church around the world; give Christians everywhere strength and courage to stand up for Jesus.

LORD we ask for peace and healing for all who suffer physically and emotionally; we know that You will give them strength for their journey and for that blessed assurance we thank You.

Father, You are so good to us and we praise and thank You for Your protection, mercy, love, and salvation – through Your Son Jesus. Amen.

- Pray for what is heavy on your heart this day.

Topics: Peace, our country, nations in turmoil, persecuted church, economic hardship, health concerns

JANUARY 7, 2021– VISION

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him. Ephesians 1:1

Read and pray using Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! 2 Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! 3 Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! 5 For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Prayer based on *Psalm 100*

Gracious God, each time we gather for worship in Your name we receive a foretaste of the feast to come. You present to us a vision of a world where sin is no more, suffering has ended, and joy lasts forever around Your heavenly banquet table. As Your blessed and forgiven children lead us ever forward by Your light, illumining the paths of our futures by the reflected glory of Your Son. Help us to share Your triumphal vision with others, caring as You have cared, loving as You loved, sharing as You have shared. Throughout this year may Your Kingdom be evident among us and through us, that we the church would overcome the cynicism and apathy of the world by living in the hope and knowledge that comes through Your inherent Word. Wherever we encounter pain or suffering may we offer the healing palm of the Gospel, wherever the devil is running amuck may we speak the truths that You have revealed in Holy

Scriptures. Clear the fog of our human misunderstandings and cause us to keep our eyes on the revealed glory that is Your Son's witness as we pray in His strong name, Jesus Christ our LORD and Savior. Amen.

Read and pray using Revelation 21:22-26

²² And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵ and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.

Dear God, thank You for this vision of life eternal in Your majestic kingdom. May this vision bring us comfort in our times of sorrow and inspiration for every day of our lives. Please cause the light that You have given us in Jesus Christ to shine brightly in our hearts so that we will be beacons of hope to the world around us. Stir within us by the power of Your Holy Spirit, and give us a great desire to advance Your kingdom until the whole world knows of Your glory. Bless the members of our congregation with excitement about what You have done for us in Christ Jesus and the power of his resurrection to bring new life for all. Please give us wisdom in planning and strength to live out the calling You have given us through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Please pray for:

- The Congregational meeting on February 7th
- Our upcoming series on **Agents of Babylon**
- Health and healing for those who suffer

