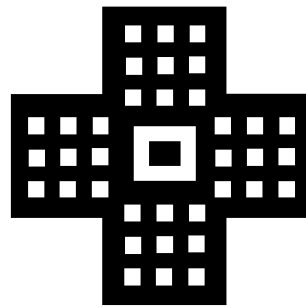


The **Daily Office**



Morning Prayer (Matins)
Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Night Prayer (Compline)

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

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Prayer at the different hours of the day is among the oldest Christian customs, inherited from Jewish practice. The heart of traditional Daily Prayer is reading the Psalms. One way to do that is with a plan like this:

Day	Matins	Vespers	Day	Matins	Vespers	Day	Matins	Vespers
<i>i.</i>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	6, 7, 8	<i>xi.</i>	56, 57, 58	59, 60, 61	<i>xxi.</i>	105	106
<i>ii.</i>	9, 10, 11	12, 13, 14	<i>xii.</i>	63, 63, 64	65, 66, 67	<i>xxii.</i>	107	108, 108
<i>iii.</i>	15, 16, 17	18	<i>xiii.</i>	68	69, 70	<i>xxiii.</i>	110, 111, 112, 113	114, 115
<i>iv.</i>	19, 20, 21	22, 23	<i>xiv.</i>	71, 72	73, 74	<i>xxiv.</i>	116, 117, 118	119:1-32
<i>v.</i>	24, 25, 26	27, 28, 29	<i>xv.</i>	75, 76, 77	78	<i>xxv.</i>	119: 33- 72	119:73- 102
<i>vi.</i>	30, 31	32, 33, 34	<i>xvi.</i>	79, 80, 81	82, 83, 84, 85	<i>xxvi.</i>	119: 103-144	119: 145- 150
<i>vii.</i>	35, 36	37	<i>xvii.</i>	86, 87, 88	89	<i>xxvi.</i> <i>i.</i>	120, 121, 122, 123, 123, 125	126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131
<i>viii.</i>	38, 39, 40	41, 42, 43	<i>xviii.</i>	90, 91, 92	93, 94	<i>xxvi.</i> <i>ii.</i>	132, 133, 134, 135	136, 137, 138
<i>ix.</i>	44, 45, 46	47, 48, 49	<i>xix.</i>	96, 97	98, 99, 100, 101	<i>xxix.</i>	139, 140, 141	142, 143
<i>x.</i>	50, 51, 52	53, 54, 55	<i>xx.</i>	102, 103	104	<i>xxx.</i> & <i>xxxi</i>	144, 145, 146	147, 148, 149, 150

Morning Prayer (Matins)

Invitatory

O Lord, open my lips,

and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Glory 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.

Venite [Psalm 95 with antiphons]

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

Oh, come, let us worship Him.

Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy
to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to Him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all
gods.

In His hands are the caverns of the earth; the heights
of the hills are also His.

The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands have
molded the dry land.

Oh, come, let us bow down and bend the knee, and
kneel before the Lord our maker.

For He is our God, and we are the people of His
pasture and the sheep of His hand.

Glory 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.

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

Oh, come, let us worship Him.

Other psalms appointed for daily prayer are read.

A hymn may be sung.

The lesson(s) for the day are read.

Gospel Song: *Benedictus* [Luke 1:68-79]

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; He has come to
His people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the
house of His servant David.

Through His holy prophets He promised of old that
He would save us from our enemies, from the
hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to
remember His holy covenant.

This was the oath He swore to our father Abraham: to
set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to
worship Him without fear, holy and righteous in
His sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most
High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare
His way, to give His people knowledge of
salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from
on high shall break upon us, to shine on those
who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory 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.

Prayers

The Prayer of the Day from the preceding Sunday may be said.

Other Prayers may follow, concluding with these two:

O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome in adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord almighty bless us, and direct our days and our deeds in His peace.

Amen.

Evening Prayer (Vespers)

Invitatory

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.

Let your light scatter the darkness,
and illumine your Church.

Evening Hymn: *Phos Hilaron*

Joyous light of glory:
Of the immortal Father, heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus
Christ.

We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look
to the evening light.

We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
You are worthy of being praised with pure voices
forever.

O Son of God, O Giver of life:
The universe proclaims your glory.

Thanksgiving for Light

A candle or lamp may be lit.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and we, your creatures glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Psalm 141, adapted

Let my prayer rise before you as incense; the lifting
up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly; hear my
voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense; the lifting
up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the
door of my lips.

Let not my heart incline to any evil thing: let me not
be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.

But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God; in you I
take refuge. Strip me not of my life.

Glory 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.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense; the lifting
up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Silence for meditation.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your loving-kindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.
Amen.

Additional psalms appointed for the evening are said.

A hymn may be sung.

The lessons appointed for the day are read.

Gospel Song: Magnificat [Luke 1:46-55]

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit
rejoices in God my Savior, for He has looked with
favor on His lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy
is His name.

He has mercy on those who fear Him in every
generation.

He has shown the strength of His arm; He has
scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and
has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the
rich He has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of His servant Israel, for He
has remembered His promise of mercy, the
promise He made to our fathers, to Abraham and
His children forever.

Glory 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.

Prayers

Prayers are offered for the church, the world, and all in need. A litany or confession of sins is appropriate, as are prayers for the leaders of the nation and of the church, as well as for one's enemies.

The concluding prayers shall be the Prayer for Peace and the Lord's Prayer.

Prayer for Peace

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever. **Amen.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us. Amen.

Night Prayer (Compline)

Gathering

The congregation assembles in silence.

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

Amen

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;
to herald your love in the morning,
your truth at the close of the day.

Night Hymn: *Te lucis ante terminum*

This or another appropriate hymn for a night service is sung.

*To Thee before the close of day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That, with Thy wonted favour, Thou
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.*

*From all ill dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Withhold from us our ghostly foe,
That spot of sin we may not know.*

*O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, Thine only Son,
Who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee,
Doth live and reign eternally.*

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination.

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen

Psalmody

One or more psalms (4, 33, 34, 91, 134, 136) are sung or said.

Silence for meditation follows each psalm.

The psalm prayer appropriate to each psalm follows the silence.

Brief Lesson

As a Brief Lesson, one or more of the following are read.

You are in our midst, O Lord, and you have named us yours; do not forsake us, O Lord our God.
(*Jeremiah 14:0*)

Come to me, all whose work is hard, whose load is heavy, and I will give you rest. Bend your necks to my yoke, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble-hearted; and you will find rest. For my yoke is good to bear, my load is light. (*Matthew 11:28-30*)

Peace is my parting gift to you, my own peace, such as the world cannot give. Set your troubled hearts at rest, and banish your fears. (*John 14:27*)

I am convinced that there is nothing in death or life, in the realm of spirits or super-human powers, in the world as it is or the world as it shall be, in the forces of the universe, in heights or depths -- nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (*Romans 8:38-39*)

Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand and he will lift you up in due time. Cast all your cares on him, for you are his charge. Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith. (*1 Peter 5:6-9a*)

Responsory

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

The Hymn

A hymn for the night is sung.

Prayers

One or more of the following prayers are sung or said.

Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OR

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OR

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

OR

Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OR

Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are yours, and to you the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch

and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OR

Gracious Lord, we give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to you. We entrust to you the night; we rest in surety, for you are our help, and you neither slumber nor sleep.

Amen

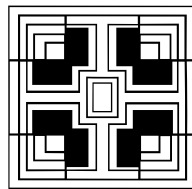
Lord's Prayer

**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.**



Gospel Canticle: *Nunc dimittis* [St. Luke 2:29-32]

The Gospel Canticle is sung. An antiphon may be sung before and after.

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;
that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may
rest in peace.

**Lord, now you let your servant go in peace;
your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:
A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Glory 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**

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;
that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we
may rest in peace.

Benediction

The Benediction concludes the service.

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

Amen