



## 40-Day Devotion: The Lord's Prayer

These devotional thoughts are meant to stir your prayer life and ask for God to lead you and for God to lead his church. A prayer the Task Force has used goes like this:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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**Day 1: February 18, 2026**  
**Ash Wednesday**

**Luther's Explanation:** Confession is an honest acknowledgment of our sins before God, trusting in His mercy and forgiveness.

**Reflection:** Reflect on areas of your life needing confession and renewal.

**Scripture (1 John 1:9 ESV):** “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

**Prayer:** Ask God for forgiveness and a repentant heart.

**Day 2: February 19, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** Praying together strengthens faith and builds unity among believers.

**Reflection:** Join with others in prayer, sharing burdens and joys.

**Scripture (Matthew 18:20 ESV):** “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

**Prayer:** Pray for unity and encouragement within your community.

### **Day 3: February 20, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** God leads us through His Word and Spirit, guiding our steps.

**Reflection:** Ask God to direct your path and decisions.

**Scripture (Psalm 32:8 ESV):** "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you."

**Prayer:** Pray for clear guidance and direction.

### **Day 4: February 21, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** Prayer is also a time to rest and be renewed in God's presence, finding peace and strength.

**Reflection:** Spend time quietly resting in God's love and care.

**Scripture (Psalm 62:1 ESV):** "For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation."

**Prayer:** Ask God for peace and renewal in His presence.

**Sunday**  
**February 22, 2026 • Worship**  
***Father***

## **Day 5: February 23, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** God invites us to call Him Father, showing His love and care.

**Reflection:** Reflect on God's fatherly love and your trust in Him. As we call a Sr. Pastor for Christ Lutheran, trust is a major issue. During this season of Lent, we trust our Father will reveal his will for us.

**Scripture (Matthew 6:9 ESV):** "Pray then like this: 'Our Father in heaven'"

**Prayer:** Pray to know God as your loving Father.

## **Day 6: February 24, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** Prayer is rooted in faith, trusting that God's promises are true and reliable.

**Reflection:** Meditate on the promises God has made in Scripture.

**Scripture (Hebrews 10:23 ESV):** "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful."

**Prayer:** Ask God to strengthen your faith in His promises.

**Day 7: February 25, 2026**  
**Prayer Service at 6:30pm**

**Luther's Explanation:** Prayer is not only speaking to God but also listening for His guidance and direction.

**Reflection:** Spend time in silence, listening for God's voice.

**Scripture (Psalm 46:10 ESV):**

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

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you hear and follow His guidance.

**Day 8: February 26, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** God invites us to bring our physical, emotional, and spiritual needs to Him in prayer.

**Reflection:** Lift up areas of your life or others' lives needing healing.

**Scripture (James 5:16 ESV):** "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

**Prayer:** Ask God for healing and restoration.

## Day 9: February 27, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God promises to give wisdom to those who ask in faith.

**Reflection:** Consider decisions or challenges where you need God's wisdom.

**Scripture (James 1:5 ESV):** "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

**Prayer:** Pray for wisdom and discernment.

## Day 10: February 28, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God gives strength to the weary and empowers us to face challenges.

**Reflection:** Identify areas where you need God's strength.

**Scripture (Isaiah 40:31 ESV):** "But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

**Prayer:** Pray for renewed strength and perseverance.

**Sunday**  
**March 1, 2026 • Worship**  
***Holy***

## Day 11: March 2, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God's name is holy in itself, but we pray that it may be kept holy among us.

**Reflection:** Consider how your words and actions honor God's name. How we go about "calling" a Sr. Pastor matters. Each day we use God's name to seek God's will.

**Scripture (Matthew 6:9 ESV):** "Pray then like this: 'hallowed be your name.'"

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you live in a way that honors Him.

## Day 12: March 3, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** Expressing gratitude in prayer helps us recognize God's ongoing work and blessings in our lives.

**Reflection:** Take time to thank God for specific blessings today.

**Scripture (1 Thessalonians 5:18 ESV):** "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

**Prayer:** Offer prayers of thanksgiving for God's goodness.

**Day 13: March 4, 2026**  
**Prayer Service at 6:30pm**

**Luther's Explanation:** God is our refuge and protector in times of trouble.

**Reflection:** Trust God's protection over your life and loved ones.

**Scripture (Psalm 91:2 ESV):** "I will say to the LORD, 'My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'"

**Prayer:** Pray for safety and protection.

**Day 14: March 5, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** Courage is needed to follow God's call, especially in times of change.

**Reflection:** Pray for boldness and faith as you step into the unknown with a new Sr. Pastor.

**Scripture (Joshua 1:9 ESV):** "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

**Prayer:** Ask God for courage to embrace His plan.

## Day 15: March 6, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** Unity in Christ is essential for the church's mission and health.

**Reflection:** Pray for harmony and shared purpose as your congregation prepares to call a new Sr. Pastor. Consider how unity can strengthen your discernment and welcome.

**Scripture (Ephesians 4:3 ESV):** "Eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

**Prayer:** Ask God to bind your congregation together in love and purpose.

## Day 16: March 7, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God renews our hearts and minds through His Spirit.

**Reflection:** Seek renewal in areas of spiritual dryness or fatigue.

**Scripture (Romans 12:2 ESV):** "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

**Prayer:** Pray for spiritual renewal and transformation.

Sunday  
March 8, 2026 • Worship  
*Kingdom*

## Day 17: March 9, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God's kingdom comes by itself, but we pray that it may come to us also.

**Reflection:** Pray for God's rule in your heart and life. It would be presumptuous to believe that the calling of a Sr. Pastor will bring God's Kingdom. But we do seek God's will to rule our heart and life – not just on the day we call our next Pastor. We seek God's will every day.

**Scripture (Matthew 6:10 ESV):** "Your kingdom come"

**Prayer:** Ask God to bring His kingdom into your life and community.

## Day 18: March 10, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** Prayer is a way to seek God's wisdom and direction for decisions and challenges.

**Reflection:** Bring your questions and uncertainties before God in prayer.

**Scripture (Proverbs 3:5-6 ESV):** "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

**Prayer:** Pray for clarity and guidance in your choices.

**Day 19: March 11, 2026**  
**Prayer Service at 6:30pm**

**Luther's Explanation:** God's peace surpasses understanding and guards our hearts and minds.

**Reflection:** Invite God's peace into areas of anxiety or conflict.

**Scripture (Philippians 4:6-7 ESV):** "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

**Prayer:** Ask God for peace in your heart and relationships.

**Day 20: March 12, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** Faith is a gift from God, strengthened through prayer and His Word.

**Reflection:** Ask God to deepen your faith and trust in Him.

**Scripture (Hebrews 11:1 ESV):** "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

**Prayer:** Pray for greater faith.

## Day 21: March 13, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God's love transforms us and enables us to love others.

**Reflection:** Reflect on ways to show God's love to those around you.

**Scripture (1 Corinthians 13:13 ESV):** "So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

**Prayer:** Pray for a loving heart.

## Day 22: March 14, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** Hope in God anchors our soul and gives us strength for each day.

**Reflection:** Meditate on God's promises of hope.

**Scripture (Romans 15:13 ESV):** "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

**Prayer:** Pray for hope and encouragement.

Sunday  
March, 15, 2026 • Worship  
*Will*

## **Day 23: March 16, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** God's will is done even without our prayer, but we ask that it may be done among us also.

**Reflection:** Surrender your plans to God's will. These words seem to explicitly direct us to seek God's plans for this congregation. This is not just about calling the Pastor we want or think we need. Seek God's will for who we call to be our Sr. Pastor.

**Scripture (Matthew 6:10 ESV):** "your will be done,"

**Prayer:** Pray for strength to follow God's will.

## **Day 24: March 17, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** God encourages us to be persistent in prayer, trusting that He hears us even when answers seem delayed.

**Reflection:** Reflect on times when perseverance in prayer brought growth or blessing.

**Scripture (Luke 18:1 ESV):** "And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart."

**Prayer:** Ask God for endurance and patience in your prayer life.

**Day 25: March 18, 2026**  
**Prayer Service at 6:30pm**

**Luther's Explanation:** Trust in God's provision brings peace and confidence.

**Reflection:** As Lent concludes, reflect on God's faithfulness throughout the call process. Trust that He will provide the right Sr. Pastor for your congregation.

**Scripture (Philippians 4:19 ESV):** "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

**Prayer:** Thank God for His guidance and provision.

**Day 26: March 19, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** Openness to God's leading allows us to embrace new possibilities.

**Reflection:** Reflect on your willingness to accept God's choice, even if it challenges expectations.

**Scripture (Isaiah 43:19 ESV):** "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

**Prayer:** Ask God to open your heart to His will.

## Day 27: March 20, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God grants wisdom to those who seek His will.

**Reflection:** Ask for clarity and discernment as you evaluate candidates and listen for God's direction.

**Scripture (James 1:5 ESV):** "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

**Prayer:** Pray for wisdom and insight in the call process.

## Day 28: March 21, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** Humility allows us to depend on God and serve others selflessly.

**Reflection:** Consider areas where you need to grow in humility.

**Scripture (Philippians 2:3 ESV):** "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."

**Prayer:** Pray for a humble spirit.

**Sunday**  
**March 22, 2026 • Worship**  
***Unity***

## Day 29: March 23, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** We pray that God's will be done here as perfectly as in heaven.

**Reflection:** Consider how you can live out God's will daily. This may seem impossible. Sin makes it so. But God's will can be done here as perfectly as in heaven. God makes it possible.

**Scripture (Matthew 6:10 ESV):** "on earth as it is in heaven."

**Prayer:** Ask God to help you live according to His will.

## Day 30: March 24, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** Trusting God's timing means believing He knows what is best for us, even when answers seem delayed.

**Reflection:** Reflect on times when waiting on God brought unexpected blessings.

**Scripture (Ecclesiastes 3:1 ESV):** "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

**Prayer:** Ask for patience and trust in God's timing.

**Day 31: March 25, 2026**  
**Prayer Service at 6:30pm**

**Luther's Explanation:** Joy is a fruit of the Spirit and can be found even in difficult circumstances through prayer.

**Reflection:** Seek joy in God's presence, regardless of your situation.

**Scripture (Philippians 4:4 ESV):** "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice."

**Prayer:** Pray for joy and contentment.

**Day 32: March 26, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** Intercessory prayer is a way to show love and care for others, lifting their needs before God.

**Reflection:** Think of people in your life who need prayer and lift them up.

**Scripture (1 Timothy 2:1 ESV):** "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people."

**Prayer:** Pray for the needs of others

## Day 33: March 27, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God provides for our needs and invites us to ask for daily provision.

**Reflection:** Thank God for His faithfulness in providing for you.

**Scripture (Philippians 4:19 ESV):** "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

**Prayer:** Pray for God's provision in every area of life.

## Day 34: March 28, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

**Reflection:** Consider all the blessings—big and small—that God provides each day. Think about all. The talent God has gathered in our Congregation. We have been given much more than we need to be together in Christ that others may know Christ.

**Scripture (Matthew 6:11 ESV):** "Give us this day our daily bread."

**Prayer:** Thank God for His provision and ask for a grateful heart.

**Sunday, March 29, 2026**  
**Palm Sunday**  
***Forgive***

## Day 35: March 30, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, nor deny our prayer because of them.

**Reflection:** Reflect on God's forgiveness and your call to forgive others. During this season we reflect upon any actions, words or thoughts that might have damaged relationships. This is a season to seek forgiveness.

**Scripture (Matthew 6:12 ESV):** "and forgive us our debts"

**Prayer:** Ask God for forgiveness and the strength to forgive others.

## Day 36: March 31, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** This petition reminds us to forgive others as God forgives us, fostering reconciliation and peace in our relationships.

**Reflection:** Think about relationships where you need to extend forgiveness. This sometimes is the harder thing to do. Who has sinned against us. Who do we need to forgive. Why is this important in calling a new Pastor? A forgiving church creates a welcoming environment for our new Pastor to work in.

**Scripture (Colossians 3:13 ESV):** "bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

**Prayer:** Pray for a forgiving spirit and healing in relationships.

## Day 37: April 1, 2026

**Luther's Explanation:** Forgiveness is central to the Christian life, both receiving and extending it.

**Reflection:** Reflect on relationships needing forgiveness and reconciliation.

**Scripture (Ephesians 4:32 ESV):** “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

**Prayer:** Pray for a forgiving heart.

## Day 38: April 2, 2026

### *Bread*

**Luther's Explanation:** God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice.

**Reflection:** Ask God for strength and wisdom to resist temptation. This is important during a season of seeking a new pastor. It is easy to be tempted to seek our own will and not Gods.

**Scripture (Matthew 6:13 ESV):** “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

**Prayer:** Pray for protection and victory over temptation.

**Day 39: April 3, 2026**  
*Deliver*

**Luther's Explanation:** We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

**Reflection:** Trust God's power to deliver you from all forms of evil.

**Scripture (Psalm 121:7-8 ESV):** "The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore."

**Prayer:** Ask God for deliverance and peace.

**Day 40: April 4, 2026**

**Luther's Explanation:** Amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so." This word expresses confidence that God hears and answers prayer, affirming our trust in His promises.

**Reflection:** End your prayers with confidence in God's faithfulness.

**Scripture (2 Corinthians 1:20 ESV):** "For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory."

**Prayer:** Affirm your trust in God's answers.

**Easter Sunday**  
*Forever*

## **Please join us for Holy Week Special Events & Services**

- Palm Sunday: Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 5pm and Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:15am & 10:45am
- Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast (High School Youth Fundraiser) 8:45am—11:00am
- Maundy Thursday: April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm & 7:30pm
- Good Friday: April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm
- Easter Jam: April 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am
- Easter Sunday: April 5<sup>th</sup> at 8am, 9:30am, & 11am

