In the name of the Father and of the  $\div$  Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### **Versicles**

Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea; hear me and answer me.

Evening, morning, and noon

I cry out in distress, and He hears my voice.

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous fall.

Glory be 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.

Reading Psalm 119:1–8

ALEPH

<sup>1</sup>Blessèd are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! <sup>2</sup>Blessèd are those who keep his testimonies. who seek him with their whole heart, 3who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways! <sup>4</sup>You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. 5Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! <sup>6</sup>Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. <sup>7</sup>I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your just and righteous decrees. <sup>8</sup>I will keep your statutes: do not utterly forsake me!

Reading Luke 5:17–39

<sup>17</sup>On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal. <sup>18</sup>And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, <sup>19</sup>but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. <sup>20</sup>And when he saw their faith, he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you." <sup>21</sup>And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" <sup>22</sup>When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts? <sup>23</sup>Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? <sup>24</sup>But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the man who was paralyzed—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home." <sup>25</sup>And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. <sup>26</sup>And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen extraordinary things today."

<sup>27</sup>After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, "Follow me." <sup>28</sup>And leaving everything, he rose and followed him.

<sup>29</sup>And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. <sup>30</sup>And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>31</sup>And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup>I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

<sup>33</sup>And they said to him, "The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink."

<sup>34</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? <sup>35</sup>The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days." <sup>36</sup>He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it on an old garment. If he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. <sup>37</sup>And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. <sup>38</sup>But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. <sup>39</sup>And no one after drinking old wine desires new, for he says, 'The old is good.'"

### Devotion

O Lord,

have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.

### **Prayer**

Almighty and everlasting God, You desire not the death of a sinner but that all would repent and live. Hear our prayers for those outside the Church. Take away their iniquity, and turn them from their false gods to You, the living and true God. Gather them into Your holy Church to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

# **Prayer**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, give us grace to trust You during this time of illness and distress. In mercy put an end to the epidemic that afflicts us. Grant relief to those who suffer, and comfort all that mourn. Sustain all medical personnel in their labors, and cause Your people ever to serve You in righteousness and holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, at this hour You hung upon the cross, stretching out Your loving arms to embrace the world in Your death. Grant that all people of the earth may look to You and see their salvation; for Your mercy's sake we pray.

Amen.

## **Benediction (Aaronic)**

Amen.

## **Acknowledgments**

Noon from Lutheran Service Book

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