

A Time of Prayer  
January 3, 2024

Join on Zoom: <https://bit.ly/stmikessunday2023>  
Meeting ID: 912 3096 9532 / Passcode: cdm080100!

*A time of silence is kept.*

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

*People* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Officiant* Lord, have mercy.

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: accept our prayer, and to those who seek healing, grant the power of your grace, that the weak may be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole, and sorrow turned into joy; though Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**A Reading from Isaiah (Chapter 35)**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For water shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 31:1-5** *In te, Domine, speravi*

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

**Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**

Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

**A Reading from Luke (18:35-43)**

As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

The Prayers

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying, "Hear and have mercy,"

Holy God, source of health and salvation,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Holy and Mighty, wellspring of abundant life,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Holy Immortal One, protector of the faithful,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Holy Trinity, the source of all wholeness,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Blessed Jesus, your Holy Name is medicine for healing and a promise of eternal life,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, descendant of David, you healed all who came to you in faith,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, child of Mary, you embraced the world with your love,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, divine physician, you sent your disciples to preach the Gospel and heal in your name,  
**Hear and have mercy.**  
Jesus, Son of God, you take away our sin and make us whole,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, eternal Christ, your promised Spirit renews our hearts and minds,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Grant your grace to heal those who are sick, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Comfort, relieve, and heal all sick children, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Give courage to all who await surgery, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Support and encourage those who live with chronic illness, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Strengthen those who endure continual pain, and give them hope, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Grant the refreshment of peaceful sleep to all who suffer, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Befriend all who are anxious, lonely, despondent, or afraid, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Restore those with mental illness to clarity of mind and hopefulness of heart, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Give rest to the weary, and hold the dying in your loving arms, we pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Help us to prepare for death with confident expectation and hope of Easter joy, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Give your wisdom and compassion to health care workers, that they may minister to the sick and dying with knowledge, skill, and kindness, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Uphold those who keep watch with the sick, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Guide those who search for the causes and cures of sickness and disease, we pray to you, O God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, Lamb of God,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
**Hear and have mercy.**

We pray for

Barbara	Peggy	Burton	Edie	Rebecca	Florence	David
Joni	Kitty	Jeanne	Parry	Julie	Mark	
Ron	Marilyn	Sue	Tom	Jason	Bill	

For the repose of the soul of  
Bob            Peter            Mark

Let us pray as our Savior Christ has taught 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people, through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

May God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**