

b. We give thanks to You, O Lord, for You are good, and Your mercy endures forever. You give good to every creature. You provide food for the cattle and the young ravens when they call. Your pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor Your delight in the legs of a man; You delight in those who fear You, who put their hope in Your unfailing love. *Amen.* (Psalm 136:1, 25; 147:9-11)

**13. We Thank You:** We thank You, Lord God, Heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

**At Anytime**

**14. The 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.*

**Before You Go to Bed**

**15. Luther's Evening Prayer:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. *Amen.*

**16. Now I Lay Me – Three Versions:**

- Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray, dear Lord, my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake, I pray, dear Lord, my soul to take. *Amen.*
- Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray, dear Lord, my soul to keep. Guide me safely through the night, and wake me with the morning light. *Amen.*
- Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray, dear Lord, my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake, I pray, dear Lord, my soul to take. But if I wake before I die, I pray, dear Lord, please show me why. *Amen.*

**17. At the Close:** At the close of every day, Lord to Thee I kneel and pray. Look upon Thy little child, look in love and mercy mild. Oh forgive and wash away, all my sinfulness this day. When I sleep and when I wake, bless me for my Savior's sake. *Amen.*

**18. An Eighth Century Prayer:** Before the ending of the day, Creator of the world, we pray. Your grace and peace to us allow and be our guard and keeper now. From evil dreams defend our sight, from all the terrors of the night, from all deluding thoughts that creep, on heedless minds disarmed by sleep. O Father, this we ask be done, through Jesus Christ Your only Son, who with the Holy Ghost and You, shall live and reign all ages through. *Amen.*

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134  
440-845-2230 • [www.blc7500.com](http://www.blc7500.com)

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# Prayer Basics

## Part 1



**With Many Short Prayers  
Parents – Teach Your Children!**

**This Brochure Will Answer These Questions:**

- What is prayer?
- What are the benefits of prayer?
- Whose prayers are heard by God?

**These are some good prayers to use:**

- *When you wake up*
- *At mealtime*
- *Before you go to bed*

**What is Prayer?**

Prayer is speaking to God in words and thoughts.

- “May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.” (Psalm 19:14)
- “When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God.” (Acts 4:24)

## Whose Prayers are Heard by God?

### The Righteous:

- “The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.” (Psalm 34:17)
- “The LORD is far from the wicked but he hears the prayer of the righteous.” (Proverbs 15:29)

**Those Who Remain in Jesus:** “If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.” (John 15:7)

**Those Who Know and Do God’s Will:** “We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will.” (John 9:31)

## What are some Benefits of Prayer?

**God’s Peace:** “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6-7)

**God’s Guidance:** “Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.” (Psalm 143:8)

**God’s Strength and Help:** “I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” (Isaiah 41:10b)

**God’s Freedom from Fear:** “The LORD is my light and my salvation-- whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life-- of whom shall I be afraid?” (Psalm 27:1)

## What are some Good Prayers to Use?

### When You Wake Up

**1. Luther’s Morning Prayer:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. *Amen.*

### At Mealtime – Before

**2. Come Lord Jesus – Two Versions:**

- a. Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blest. *Amen.*
- b. Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blest. And may there be a goodly share, on every table everywhere. *Amen.*

**3. God is Great:** God is great, God is good, and we thank Him for our food, by His hands we all are fed, give us Lord, our daily bread. *Amen.*

**4. The Eyes of All:** The eyes of all look to You, O Lord, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. Lord God, Heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. *Amen.* (Ps. 145:15-16)

**5. Lord God:** Lord God, Heavenly Father, bless this food to Your glory and to Your good. *Amen.*

**6. Grant Us Your Grace:** Grant us Your grace, O Lord, that, whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, we may do it in Your name and to Your glory. *Amen.*

**7. Lord God, Heavenly Father:** Lord God, Heavenly Father, bless this food which You have given us. Help us to receive it with grateful hearts. As You nourish our bodies with earthly bread, feed also our souls with the Bread of Life. Strengthen our faith, increase our love, and cause us to grow in service before You all our days. *Amen.*

**8. Lord Jesus Christ:** Lord Jesus Christ, be our guest, our morning joy, our evening rest; and with our daily bread impart, Your love and peace to every heart. *Amen.*

**9. Feed Your Children:** Feed Your children, God most holy, comfort sinners poor and lowly; O Jesus, bread of life from heaven, bless the food You here have given. As these gifts the body nourish, may our souls in graces flourish, till with saints in heavenly splendor, at Your feast due thanks we render. *Amen.*

**10. Be Present:** Be present at our table, Lord, be here and everywhere adored. Your children bless, and grant that we, may eat and drink to honor Thee. *Amen.*

### At Mealtime – After

**11. For Food and Drink:** For food and drink and happy days, accept our gratitude and praise; in serving others, Lord, may we, express our thankfulness to Thee. *Amen.*

**12. We Give Thanks – Two Versions:**

- a. We give thanks to You, O Lord, for You are good, and Your mercy endures forever. *Amen.*