



Here is a family devotional outline you can use on Sunday with your family:

The Introit

My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He will pluck my feet out of the net. One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple. For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock. And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

The Collect for the Day

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 42:14-21

¹⁴ For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵ I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools.

¹⁶ And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷ They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods."

¹⁸ Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹ Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰ He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹ The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

The Gradual

O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the Throne of God.



The Epistle Reading – Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰ and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

¹² For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.

¹³ But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 9th chapter.

¹ As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth.

² And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

³ Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.

⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.

⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

⁶ Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷ and said to him,

“Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.

¹⁵ So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said,

“How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

³⁴ They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?”

³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.”

³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”



Sermon - [CHRIST THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD](#) - *Ephesians 5:8-14*

(Click the Link above for audio supplement)

I. Christ brings people out of darkness into light Vs. 8-9

- A. All people that Christ came into contact had a darkness of some kind in their lives.
 - Simeon – *long years but an unfulfilled life*
 - Palsied man – *frustration and despair of a permanent infirmity*
 - Martha – *her busyness and superficiality in life lacked meaning*
 - Thief on the cross – *looked eyeball to eyeball at a closed future. The entrance of Christ into the lives of these people brought dramatic changes.*

- B. Continues later - people are living in godlessness and artificial Christianity.
 - Light of a promising future – *in our professional lives our jobs become our purpose*
 - Light of abundant materialism – *desire to 'get' rather than desire for God.*
 - Light of extensive knowledge – *reason more desirable than faith in Christ and His Word.*
 - Light of spectacular entertainment – *that entertainment is gone with Corona Virus, how will the "religion of sports" serve us now.*

II. Light of Christ makes us different than darkness

- A. Light makes you different Vs. 10
Rich young ruler came to Christ living with moral directives that failed him. Disciples disputed over the place of honor in heaven. Like these people we are rough diamonds that need to be cut with the love of Christ

- B. Only Christ can give that light Vs. 14
Man by speculation, psychological analysis and emotional decision believes that he is enlightened. The tragedy is that in his Christ-less morality and idealism, man has still to learn that he is in darkness. Our world needs to hear the Words of Christ, "I have come as a light to the world that whoever believes in Me may not remain in darkness." 12:46



The Prayers

Successful cancer treatment for Bonnie Cayan

Thanksgiving for clear CT-scans after cancer surgery for Marianne Sprouse, friend of the Pastor & Tammie Farnsworth

Prayers for situation of Corona Virus

Dear Father in heaven,

You have promised to be with us always with Your comfort, strength, peace and protection. We thank and praise You for Your goodness and mercy.

We humbly come before You during this time of national and international distress asking You to work mightily to curb the advance of this virus that has already attacked thousands.

Be with those here in our community and around the world who are doing what is humanly possible to stop its devastating advance, yet we know that no remedy, measure or treatment will be effective without Your blessing.

Therefore, we ask You to bless all those efforts. And grant to us peace, courage and strength of faith, so that we are continually confident of Your love and goodness.

We know that Your ways are not our ways, that Your ways are always best, and so we entrust ourselves, our loved ones and this current situation into Your hands, trusting in Your mercy.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen!

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.



Immanuel Lutheran Church Family Devotional for Sunday, March 22, 2019.

Continued Prayers

Peace & comfort for the family of Therese Roberts
Peace & comfort to the family of Kathleen Coughlin
Thanksgiving for the anniversary of Walt & Carole Braudis
Employment for those struggling to find a job

Healing

Gary Hamilton, father-in-law of Kori Hamilton
Richard Richards

Battling with Cancer or Serious Illness

Keith Stallings
Mercedes, grand-daughter of Nancy Christianson
Alan Sparks, and strength & comfort
Sammy Dunneho, brother of Felton Dunneho
Richard Steinbrueck
Don Swisher, step-father of Larry Habeck
Tracie Danielle Rhodes, niece of Bill & Jackie Anton
Paul Braudis, brother of Walt
Bill, (w/brain cancer) uncle of Brian Littrel
Christy Jones
Bruce Zellmer, brother of Duane
Cheryl Ford
Cathy Nichols, mother of Cathy Wilson

Andrew Krauska, and God to bring him to faith, brother-in-law of Sally James
David Parkinson, brother of Betty Loraamm
Regina Goodwin, niece of Plumb's
Dan Bowdish, husband of Corinne Bowdish
Athlee Muehlnickel
Nancy Meyers, sister of Jackie Anton
Mike Kurtz
Bill Wise, cousin of Carole Braudis
Priscilla Ritter, mother of Lynda Smith and grandmother of Rob Ritter
Lois Sutton, mother of Ruth Krause
Kathy Kane, sister of Ray Dempsey
Tom Meyferth
Peggy & Larry Audler, cousins of Irv Dupre
Glenn Turner, uncle of Tammie Farnsworth

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Safety for... and strength for families:

Matthew Albers as he is promoted to Major in USAF and assumes command in Sacramento, CA, son of Deb Albers
Xander Ritter as he is in Marine Basics
Logan Crouse as he is undergoing Army air borne training, great-nephew of Joan Crouse
Carson Crouse, (army) great-nephew of Joan Crouse, stationed in Georgia
Christian Lipke, serving in Kansas, grandson of Sandy Goode, brother of Lauren Lopez
Gavin Mattson, stationed in New Mexico, as he continues his para-rescue man training, grandson of Edith Mattson
Nick Dillon as he travels on an aircraft carrier in the Middle East, nephew of Kim Blomquist

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILIES

Sunday: Mike & Jenny Childers
Monday: Nancy Christianson
Tuesday: Ed & Carolyn Clarke
Wed: Jeff & Lori Cole, Andrew
Thursday: Connie Collins
Friday: Tommy & Elizabeth Combs, Ainsley & Asher
Saturday: Joanne Conley, Jay, Eric

PRAYERS FOR OUR SCHOOL STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Sunday: Robert King
Monday: Xenia Kora
Tuesday: Joel Kuriakose
Wed: Justin La
Thursday: Luke Landree
Friday: Tristen Layman
Saturday: Lily & Wyatt Lemanski