

The Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills  
MONDAY EVENING DEVOTIONAL SERIES



**GRACE IS GREATER  
THAN YOUR WEAKNESS**

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**September 18, 2023**

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**THE SENTENCES**

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you.**

This is the day the Lord has made;

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

We have come into the presence of God, Who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give You strength to live according to His will.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious Lord, we give You thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive. The day is now past, and we commit it to You. We entrust to You the night and rest in Your peace, for You are our help, and You neither slumber nor sleep. Hear us for the sake of Your name.

**Amen.**

## READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

First Reading.....Isaiah 40:28-31

Second Reading.....2 Corinthians 12:7-10

## RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

~Psalm 46:1-5 (spoken responsively)

God is our refuge and strength,  
**a very present help in trouble.**

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,  
**though the mountains be moved into the heart of  
the sea,**

though its waters roar and foam,  
**though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
**the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;  
**God will help her when morning dawns.**

## SERMON

*"Grace Is Greater Than Your Weakness"*  
Rev. Michael Ahlemeyer

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

## 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.**

## 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.**

## BENEDICTION

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the  
Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you  
all.

**Amen.**

*(If desired, please stay for Holy Communion)*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**