

PRAYERS OF MARTIN LUTHER



Luther's Morning Prayer

My Heavenly Father, I thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept me safe from all evil and danger last night. Save me, I pray, today as well, from every evil and sin, so that all I do and the way that I live will please you. I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have. Let Your holy Angels be with me, so that the evil enemy will not gain power over me. Amen

Luther's Evening Prayer

My Heavenly Father, I thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You have protected me, by Your grace. Forgive, I pray, all my sins and the evil I have done. Protect me, by Your grace, tonight. I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have. Let Your holy angels be with me, so that the evil enemy will not gain power over me. Amen.

Luther's Sacristy Prayer

Lord God, You have appointed me as a pastor in Your Church, but you see how unsuited I am to meet so great and difficult a task. If I had lacked Your help, I would have ruined everything long ago. Therefore, I call upon You: I wish to devote my mouth and my heart to you; I shall teach the people. I myself will learn and ponder diligently upon Your Word. Use me as Your instrument -- but do not forsake me, for if ever I should be on my own, I would easily wreck it all.

Luther's recommendations for using Bible verses as prayers

Psalm 25 – a general prayer to submit to God in all things

Psalm 67 – to be prayed for the increase of faith

Psalm 20 – for good government and for earthly authorities

Psalm 103 – for thanking God for all his goodness to us

Titus – to give instruction or living and life

Lord keep us steadfast in thy word

(from Erhalt uns, bei deinem Wort)

Lord, keep us steadfast in your word;
curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son
and bring to nothing all he's done.

Lord Jesus Christ, your power make known,
for you are Lord of lords alone;
defend your holy church, that we
may sing your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
grant one mind to your flock on earth
support us in our final strife,
and lead us out of death to life.

Song of Praise

(from Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland)

Praise to God the Father sing,
praise to God the Son, our king,
praise to God the Spirit be
now and through eternity.