

CONTINUED BLESSINGS:

Jesus has freed those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. Heb. 2:15

Every bout with sickness is a scary reminder of our final enemy, death. By nature we fear death because we fear God's righteous judgment of all sinners. Our guilt threatens us.

Only through Jesus, who has conquered death and forgiven our sins, are we freed from the fear of death. Through Him we are confident that all is well between us and God during this life and in the life to come.

Lord, I believe. Help me to become strong in faith, conquering my unbelief. AMEN.

ASSURANCE:

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve my life;... The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me; Your love, O Lord, endures forever - do not abandon the works of Your hands. Ps. 138:7-8

This present experience is but one of many troubles brought into life by sin. How empty and bitter life would be without knowing a gracious God, His Son as our Savior, and His Holy Spirit as our Comforter!

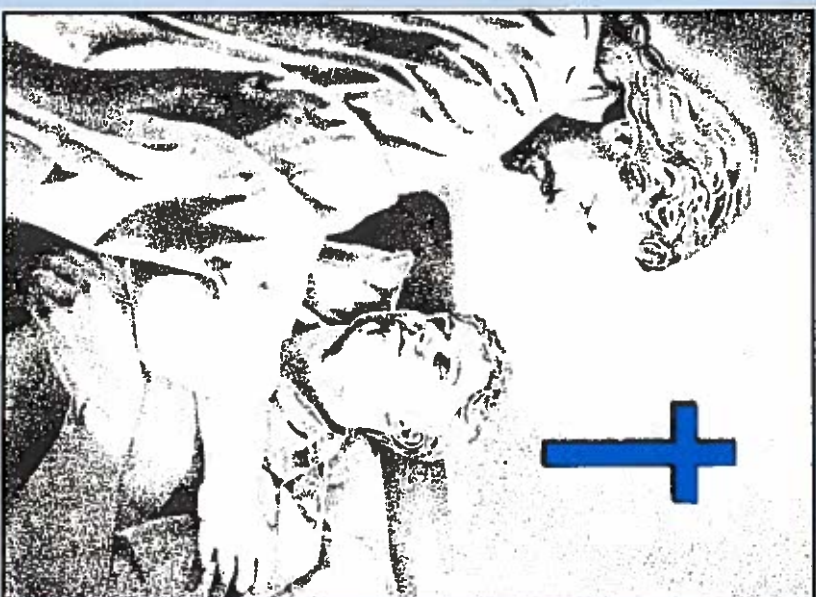
He has a purpose for our life, a glorious purpose - to lead us to paradise regained. He does not abandon us, the crown of His creation. May we not close the door to Him.

O God, keep your frail and trembling sheep from temptation, danger, and destruction. AMEN.



Commission on Special Ministries
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
N16W23377 Stone Ridge
Waukesha, WI 53188
414-256-3241
www.wels.net/csm

*the
Great Physician
at my bed*



Meditations & Prayers

ON ENTRY:

It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. Mt. 9:12

We weaken and become ill, or some serious problem in the body sends us to a hospital for treatment. God uses doctors to help relieve our condition. We trust His help through them.

There is another sickness far more serious, and we all are suffering from it. It is our sin and guilt measured by a holy God.

As we trust our doctors, so do we much more trust the Great Physician Jesus who has overcome the power of sin by living and dying for us.

God heal our body and cleanse our soul through Jesus, the world's Savior. AMEN.

MORNINGS:

God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; He lifts His voice, the earth melts. Ps. 46:5 & 6

A new day! What will it bring by way of healing? No one can foresee or guarantee what may come to us, bad or good.

Yet God knows. And He promises only the best for His children. As each day dawns He is there with His almighty power and gracious love.

The earth may spin about us, disaster may threaten, but God's voice will continue to control all things. He is MY God!

Ruler of heaven and earth, keep me in Your loving care today. Bless all who help me. AMEN.

EVENINGS:

When evening comes, there will be light. Zech. 14:7

Many of us fear the dark hours. They seem so long and tiring when pain may awaken us or scary thoughts alarm us. We make sure that the call bell is close by to call for help when we panic.

Then we remember that our Lord is not subject to darkness and helplessness. He Himself is THE Light, OUR Light. In darkness and fear there is comfort when He attends us.

O Light of my life, fill the hours of darkness with Your presence. Let me sleep peacefully and securely as You watch over my bed. AMEN.

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT:

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? Ps. 27:1

We do not know, and so we fear what the reports from our examinations may be. Possibly they might indicate a serious condition. Then again, they might be routine and predictable. Until we know, we tend to fear.

But the Lord tells us that He is our Light. He knows and directs the way that is safe and best for us. And we follow His way because we are sure that He is our total salvation. Down every road He leads us to our eternal home through His blessed Son, our Redeemer. In every way, through every circumstance, His almighty power predominates. He is our Strength!

Lord of life, I have nothing to fear. I am your child. You are my God. AMEN.

BEFORE SURGERY:

The Lord is near. 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. Phil. 4:5-7

Will it hurt? Will it help? Is the risk great? Will I survive? Such questions bring anxious moments for us and for our loved ones before surgery.

The GREAT PHYSICIAN steps in and assures: "Don't be anxious. Bring all your requests to Me. I can, I will meet every need. I am rich in grace toward you through My Son Jesus, who made you Mine."

Father of grace, give me courage to trust Your mighty promises. AMEN.

AFTER SUCCESSFUL SURGERY:

I will lie down and sleep in peace, for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety. Ps. 4:8

The doctor says my surgery was a success. That gives me hope and makes me happy and grateful.

My real rest and peace, though, comes in knowing that I am in God's hands always. As I look to Him in faith He guides me in all my ways and uses every way to lead me to my eternal home.

What more do I need for peaceful rest and sleep?

Dear Lord, I thank You for my progress in healing. Strengthen me in that peace which passes understanding. AMEN.