

# LCMS WORSHIP



## Lutherans Pray for Government Leaders and Officials

Being pro-life isn't just about the important work of standing against abortion. It's about valuing life from conception to natural death. Our Lord has given us the privilege of approaching Him in prayer.

The following collects and prayers may be offered for government leaders, officials and the judicial system as life topics and issues arise in our society, in our daily family prayers, in our school chapel services, in the daily prayer offices and in the Divine Service.

We pray for the protection of life, its loss and its place of honor among us. We ask God to bring an end to a culture of death, and we thank and praise our Triune God for His gift of life.

We pray that the following prayers and collects will be a blessing to you. May the Lord who breathed life into Adam cause human life to be held in high esteem among all people, until at last He frees our bodies from sin's sad corruption and raises us to eternal life at the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

## Prayers

### For government and judicial officials:

Almighty and everlasting God, You rule all things in heaven and earth. Give Your wisdom to the leaders of this government and nations throughout the world, that they may seek to govern with justice and compassion. As they create policies and legislation, cause them to defend the lives of all people. We pray for judges and court officials, that they may seek to

do what is right in Your eyes and that all their decisions would be founded in justice and truth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### To end abortion:

(Psalm 10) O Lord, the wicked say in their heart that You have forgotten. They murder the innocent and imagine that because others do not see it, neither will You. Arise, O Lord God, and lift up Your hand to put an end to the evil of abortion! Have mercy on our nation, hear the desire of the afflicted, incline Your ear and work by Your might, that men of this earth may strike terror on the unborn no more; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### To turn hearts:

O Author of life, You did not reject our first parents who chose themselves over Your promised care, but You gave them the hope of a marvelous salvation from sin's futility in Eve's very Offspring. Turn the hearts of all who will not know You, who believe they hold the power of life and death, and who trust in the choices of the sinful heart over the promises of God. Bring them into the knowledge of what is good, that they may know the profound value of all human life, which You have created and redeemed, and the everlasting truth of salvation in the Offspring who has crushed Satan's head forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### A comprehensive prayer for life:

O God, Creator of life, You knit us together in the wombs of our mothers, and You desire us to have life. So also Your only begotten Son took on our flesh in the womb of His mother and entered this world as

all children of men do — except without sin — so that He might be one with us and make us Your children. Look in mercy and love upon all the precious lives of children yet unborn. Guard them and give them growth, that they might come to the saving water of Holy Baptism and a saving knowledge of Your Son. Protect and guide all pregnant mothers, that they would treasure the new life they are given to bear and not be dismayed by fear of pain or cost. Strengthen all fathers, that they would protect and provide for both mother and child so that all would be cared for in this world. Encourage young people to get married, and encourage husbands and wives to desire the gift of children, that they might be fruitful and multiply according to Your gracious will. Finally, visit with Your grace those who have committed awful sin by destroying life in the womb. Bring them to repentance, but do not let them sink into despair. Forgive and heal their souls, that they would trust in the Child of Mary who was killed for their sin and rose again to give everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**For more prayers and resources on the life issues we face in our culture today, download [Worship Resources for Life Ministry](#). Also, see the *LSB Altar Book* (pp. 427–470) and the *Pastoral Care Companion*, both available from Concordia Publishing House.**