

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity – October 23, 2022

Simple orders can be found on pages 294-298 in LSB or you may use the following order

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Psalm 46

Verse[s] of the Month

Psalm 46:1 “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed

Hymn of the Week

O Lord, Look Down from Heaven, Behold (TLH 260)

Reading from Holy Scripture

Members may choose...

- *Read the Bible in a year (church website) or children’s The Story Bible (CPH)*

- *Readings appointed from the Daily Lectionary (LSB p. 299-304)*

Looking forward to the Festival of the Reformation

Monday: Revelation 14:6-7

Tuesday: Romans 3:19-28

Wednesday: John 8:31-36

Thursday: *“Wisdom is justified by her deeds”* (Matt. 11:19), and the true Wisdom of God, Christ Jesus the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, that we might eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and *“remain in the house forever”* (John 8:35). For He is *“a friend of tax collectors and sinners”* (Matt. 11:19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel *“to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people”* (Rev. 14:6), *“the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law”* (Rom. 3:21), *“that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus”* (Rom. 3:26). And by hearing the Gospel of Christ Jesus, *“whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith”* (Rom. 3:25), *“you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free”* (John 8:31–32).

Catechism for the Week: The Close of the Commandments

What does God say about all these commandments? He says: “I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” [Ex. 20:5-6]

What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

Prayers:

Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

Almighty, everlasting God, we acknowledge that we are sinners and the list of our debts is great. But we thank You heartily that You have removed those debts from us and laid them on Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, and appointed Him to pay for us. And we beseech You also graciously to sustain us in such faith, and by the Holy Spirit so to lead and direct us here on earth that we may live after Your will and gladly show all love, service, and help to our neighbors. Conversely, let all wrath, impatience, and vengefulness subside, that we may not stir up wrath against ourselves, but ever have a gracious Father toward us; through Jesus Christ, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Linda Winkelman, Jean Luerssen, Bill Heck, Craig Racer

Lord’s Prayer

Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. 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.

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.

Mealtime Prayer

The eyes of all look to You, O Lord, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Thy gifts which we receive from Thy bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Closing

Let us bless the Lord: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn of the Month

Lord, Keep Us in Thy Word and Work (ELHB 274)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of Luther’s Large Catechism p. 389-399

From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (CPH)*