

The Congregation at Prayer
A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following
First Sunday after Christmas – December 27, 2020
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

Psalm 77:11-20

Verse of the Month

Philippians 1:21: "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Week

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come (LSB 358/TLH 85)

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 Second Sunday after Christmas

Monday: Genesis 46:1-7

Tuesday: I Peter 4:12-19

Wednesday: Matthew 4:12-23

Thursday: Israel and all his family went and dwelt in Egypt (Gen 46:1-7). God made a great nation of him there. But that nation would prove unfaithful to the Lord. Therefore, the New Israel came. In fleeing from murderous Herod, our young Lord goes to Egypt (Mt 2:13-23), that the prophecy might be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt I called my Son" (Hos 11:1). Jesus brings to perfection what old Israel could not. He is the faithful Israel, the embodiment of the people of God. He offers His perfect and holy life in place of our own. He submits Himself to persecution and suffering in order to save us. Therefore, we should not think it strange when we who are in Christ experience trials because of the faith (1 Pet 4:12-19). Rather, we rejoice to share in Christ's sufferings, knowing that we will also share in His glory.

Catechism for the Week: Seventh Petition of the Lord's Prayer

What is the Seventh Petition? But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

Prayers:

Collect for the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You for Your great, unspeakable grace in receiving the needy into Your care and subjecting Your Son to the Law for our sake, that He, by His perfect obedience, might satisfy Your wrath and repair our disobedience. We beseech You so to enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that we may take comfort in this obedience over against our sins and wicked conscience, and by the help of Your Holy Spirit begin our life as obedient children and finally obtain eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Linda Winkelman, Jean Luerksen, Bill Heck, Kathy Foat, Sue Pokora

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.

Mealttime 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

Of the Father's Love Begotten (LSB 384/TLH 98)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Augsburg Confession p. 86-102

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (*CPH*)

Hymns for the Week

375-358-385-376/392/370-369