

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Reformation Day – October 29th, 2023

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 116:12-19

Verse of the Month

Romans 3:28 “Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law”

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 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity

Monday: Micah 6:6-8

Tuesday: Philippians 1:3-11

Wednesday: Matthew 18:23-35

Thursday: ***Walking humbly with our God and forgiving one another***

With what shall we come before the Lord (Micah 6:6) who forgives all our sins, and how often shall our fellow Christians sin against us and we forgive them (Matt. 18:21)? Our gracious God on high does not need our “burnt offerings” or “thousands of rams” (Micah 6:6-7), which we could legitimately offer in thanksgiving. He is the Savior who gave His only-begotten Son for our transgression. He offers the fruit of his body, once hanging dead on a cross but now living and giving life in His holy Meal, for the sin of our souls (Micah 6:7). Because He releases us from our enormous debt of sin against Him, we need not imprison our fellow sinners with our lack of love and refusal of forgiveness (Matt. 18:24, 27, 30). As partakers of His grace, we yearn for one another “with the affection of Christ Jesus” (Phil. 1:8). As forgiven sinners, “filled with the fruit of Christ’s righteousness,” our “love may abound more and more, with knowledge and discernment” (Phil. 1:11, 9), for He leads us “to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with [our] God” (Micah 6:8).

Catechism for the Week: The First Article of the Creed

The First Article of the Creed?- I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have.

He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

Collect for 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 Luerksen, Lisa Salo, Betty Beierle, Ronald Baumgart, Breanne Schultz, Carrie Strueder

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

God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage (LSB 582, TLH 283)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of Luther’s Large Catechism p.399-410

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (CPH)