

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Last Sunday of the Church Year – November 26, 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 24

Verse[s] of the Month

Verse: Revelation 21:3-4 “³And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. ⁴And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed

Hymn of the Week

Savior of the Nations Come (LSB 332/TLH 95)

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 Ad Te Levavi (Advent I)

Monday: Jeremiah 23:5-8

Tuesday: Romans 13:8-14

Wednesday: Matthew 21:1-9

Thursday: The new Church Year begins by focusing on the humble coming of our Lord. “*Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey*” (Matt. 21:5). Even as He was born in a lowly manger, so Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a beast of burden. For He bears the sin of the world. He is the Son of David riding to His enthronement on the cross, where He shows Himself to be “*The LORD is our Righteousness*” (Jer. 23:5-6). Our Lord still comes in great humility to deliver His righteousness to us in the Word and Sacraments. Before receiving Christ’s body and blood, we also sing, “*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!*” (Matt. 21:9). And as we receive the Sacrament, we set our hearts on His return in glory, for “*our salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed*” (Rom. 13:11).

Catechism for the Week: Second & Third Petition of the Lord’s Prayer

What is the Second Petition? Thy Kingdom Come. *What does this mean?* The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also. *How does God’s kingdom come?* God’s kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

What is the Third Petition? Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean? The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God’s will done? God’s will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God’s name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

Prayers:

Collect for the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

Lord God, heavenly Father, it behooves us ever to thank, praise, and glorify You that for us poor men, who for our sins had else remained under the tyranny of death and Satan, You appointed Your Son as King, that He might be a just King and Savior, that is, that by His death He might deliver and save us from our sins. And we pray that You would enlighten, direct, and lead us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may cling only to that true King and Savior, and not, like the world, be offended at His lowly form and despised Word, but by firm trust in Him receive eternal salvation. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Linda Winkelman, Jean Luerssen, Lisa Salo, Betty Beierle, Ronald Baumgart, Breanne Schultz, Carrie Strueder, Gail Andrich

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

Praise to the Lord (LSB 790/TLH 39)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Augsburg Confession p. 38-47

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (CPH)