

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following*

*Sexagesima – February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

*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 89:18-29**

### **Verse of the Month**

Luke 8:15 “The ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

### **10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed**

### **Hymn of the Week**

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus (LSB 685/TLH 409)

### **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 Quinquagesima**

Monday: I Samuel 16:1-13

Tuesday: I Corinthians 13:1-13

Wednesday: Luke 18:31-43

Thursday: The seeing are blind, while the one who is blind can see. (Lk 18:31-43) Jesus tells the twelve that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer and die and rise again. But they cannot understand or grasp what He is saying. The meaning of His words is hidden from their sight. However, as Jesus makes His way up to Jerusalem, a blind man calls out to Him for mercy. This blind man sees that Jesus is the Messiah-Savior; for he calls Him "Son of David." Indeed, Jesus is the Lord's anointed, the keeper of sheep (I Samuel 16:1-13) who goes to lay down His life for the sheep. He is the incarnate love of the Father who suffers long and is kind, who is not puffed up, who never fails us. (1 Cor 13:1-13) Jesus opens the eyes of the blind (Is 35:3-7) to see Him not according to outward appearances of lowliness, but according to His heart of mercy and compassion. Those who behold Him thus by faith follow Him to the cross through death into life.

### **Catechism for the Week: Confession**

*What is Confession?* Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

*What sins should we confess?* Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

### **Prayers:**

#### **Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)**

Lord God, heavenly Father, who by Your Son, Jesus Christ, mercifully opened the eyes of the blind man and granted Him to see the light: we poor sinners beseech You to enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Word, that through Christ, Your Son, who died on the cross for us and made atonement for our sins, we may rightly learn to know Your gracious help and mercy and in all troubles and trials look only to that, seeking it by faithful prayer, and so find comfort and deliverance from the devil, sin, and death, and obtain salvation. Amen.

#### **In Our Prayers This Week:**

Linda Winkelman, Jean Luerssen, Betty Beierle, Ronald Baumgart, Carrie Strueder, Marian Becker

#### **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**

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus (LSB 685/TLH 409)

#### **Reading from the Book of Concord**

Portions of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession p. 167-174  
From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)