

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Ad Te Levavi: Advent I – December 1st, 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 50:1-15

Verse of the Month

Luke 21:36 “Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed

Hymn of the Week

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (*LSB 334/TLH 58*)

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 Populus Zion (Advent II)

Monday: Malachi 4:1-6

Tuesday: Romans 15:4-13

Wednesday: Luke 21:25-36

Thursday: The day on which our Lord returns will be a “*great and awesome day*” (Mal. 4:5). For He will come in a cloud with great power and glory. To the wicked and the proud, it will be a Day of judgment that will “*set them ablaze*” (Mal. 4:1). The signs preceding this Day will bring them fear and fainting. But to those who believe, who fear the name of the Lord, this Day is one to look forward to and rejoice in: “*...straighten up and raise you heads, because your redemption is drawing near*” (Luke 21:28). Christ our Redeemer is coming; the Sun of Righteousness will bring healing in His wings. Let us, then, give attention to the words of the Lord, which do not pass away. Let us “*through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures*” (Rom. 15:4) be strengthened in our hope by the Holy Spirit and watch diligently for Jesus’ coming. Then, by God’s grace, we shall escape all these things that will come to pass and stand before the Son of Man.

Catechism for the Week: Fourth Petition of the Lord’s Prayer

What is the Fourth Petition? Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Prayers:

Collect for the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

Lord God, heavenly Father, who by Your Son have revealed to us that heaven and earth shall pass away, our bodies shall rise again, and we all shall be brought before the judgment seat: we beseech You that by Your Holy Spirit, You would keep us In Your Word and the true faith, graciously defend us from sin, and preserve us in all temptations, that we may not burden our hearts with gluttony and drunkenness and cares of this life, but watch and pray continually, and in the certain confidence of Your grace, await with joy the coming of Your Son and through Him receive eternal salvation Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Linda Winkelman, Frank Meyer, Mark Siddons

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

The Advent of Our King (*LSB 331/TLH 68*)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Augsburg Confession p. 47-56

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (*CPH*)