

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Laetare – March 30, 2025

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 43

Verse of the Month

Matthew 4:10: Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Week

Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart (LSB 708/TLH 429)

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 Judica (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

Monday: Genesis 22:1-19

Tuesday: Hebrews 9:11-15

Wednesday: John 8:42-59a

Thursday: In the temple Jesus said, "If anyone keeps My word he shall never see death." (Jn 8:42-59) For Jesus came to taste death for us, to drink the cup of suffering to the dregs in order that we might be released from its power. Clinging to His life-giving words, we are delivered from death's sting and its eternal judgment. Christ is our High Priest, who entered the Holy of Holies and with His own blood obtained everlasting redemption for His people. (Heb 9:11-15) He is the Timeless One, who was before Abraham and yet is his descendant. He is the promised Son who carries the wood up the mountain for the sacrifice, who is bound and laid upon the altar of the cross. He is the ram who is offered in our place, who is willingly caught in the thicket of our sin, who wears the crown of thorns upon His head. (Gen 22:1-14) Though Jesus is dishonored by the sons of the devil, He is vindicated by the Father through the cross. For, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

Catechism for the Week: Asking a Blessing

The children and members of the household shall go to the table reverently, fold their hands, and say: 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. (Psalm 145:15-16) *Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:* Lord God,

heavenly Father, bless us and these Thy gifts which we receive from Thy bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayers:

Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

O Lord God, heavenly Father, Your beloved Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, says, "Whoever keeps My Word will never see death." We beseech You to send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, inasmuch as You came to us for Your Son's Word and caused us to hear the same, that we might also keep it, depend on it with our whole heart, and in the midst of death take comfort in it and never see eternal death; for the sake of Your dear Son, our Savior. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Mark Siddons, Brian Blawat

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

Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing (LSB 421/TLH 144)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession p. 235-244
From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)