

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Judica – April 6, 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 118:19-29

Verse of the Month

I Corinthians 15:3-4 “For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.”

10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed

Hymn of the Week

Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain (LSB 865/TLH 288)

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 Palmarum (Palm Sunday)

Monday: Zechariah 9:9-12

Tuesday: Philippians 2:5-11

Wednesday: Matthew 21:1-9

Thursday: "Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey." (Zech 9:9-12; Mt 21:1-9) Our Lord rides in this humble fashion because He is entering Jerusalem to humble Himself even to the point of death on a cross. (Phil 2:5-11) His kingly crown will not be made of gold but of thorns, the sign of sin's curse. For His royal reign is displayed in bearing this curse for His people, saving us from our enemies by sacrificing His own life. The sinless One takes the place of the sinner so that the sinner can be freed and bear the name "Barabbas," "son of the Father." (Matthew 26 and 27) It is at the name of this exalted Savior, Jesus, that we bow in humble faith. With the centurion who declared, "Truly this was the Son of God!" we are given to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Catechism for the Week: Returning Thanks

Also, after eating, they shall, in like manner, reverently and with folded hands say:

Oh, give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever. He giveth food to all flesh; He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry. He delighteth not in the strength of the horse. He taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man. The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear Him, in those that hope in His mercy. (Psalm 136:1, 25; 147:9-11) *Then shall be said the Lord’s Prayer and the*

following: We thank Thee, Lord God, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for all Thy benefits, who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Prayers:

Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

O Lord God, heavenly Father, who in Your fatherly grace did not spare Your only-begotten Son, but gave Him into death, even to the death of the cross: we beseech You to send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may take heartfelt comfort in this grace, continue to avoid sin, and patiently bear whatever You appoint for our suffering, that through Him we may have eternal salvation. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

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

O Darkest Woe (LSB 448/ TLH 167)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession p. 244-251 & Smalcald Articles p. 259-262

From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)