

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Last Sunday of the Church Year—November 23, 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 24

Verse of the Month

Psalm 1:3 “And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

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: Fourth Petition of the Lord’s Prayer

Fourth Petition Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God gives daily bread, even without our prayer, to all wicked people; but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Everything that belongs to the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, field, cattle, money, goods, a pious spouse, pious children, pious servants, pious and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Prayers:

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:

Mark Siddons, Rebecca Rauterberg, Betty Beierle, Arnie Oelkers

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 all evil, so 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, so that the wicked 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, 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, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer

The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O Lord; and Thou givest them their meat in due season; Thou openest Thine hand, and satisfiest the desire 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

Now Thank we All Our God (LSB 895/TLH 36)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Augsburg Confession p. 47-56

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (CPH)