

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Memento Nostri (Fourth Sunday in Advent) – December 21, 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 89

Verse of the Month

Psalm 1:4 “The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away”.

10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed

Hymn of the Week

Sweet Flowerets of the Martyr Band (TLH 273)

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 The Holy Innocents

Monday: Exodus 1:8-22

Tuesday: Revelation 14:1–5

Wednesday: Matthew 2:13–18

Thursday: “A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children” (Jer. 31:15). Herod rages and sends to kill all boys two years and younger (Matt. 2:16), desperate to destroy the newborn King of kings. The Church remembers these innocent victims as martyrs. They died for the One who came to die for them. This dark commemoration bears witness to the cruelty of sinful men and the world’s hatred of Christ, who has sanctified our fragile life even from His conception and birth. But the boy who escaped Bethlehem’s bloody streets unscathed went on to face thorns, nails and spear for them and for us. He is the Lamb whose name is written with the Father’s name on the foreheads of His baptized saints (Rev. 14:1). By His death, He has redeemed an inheritance for Himself and brought peace at last by His blood. On the fourth day of Christmas, we sing “a new song” of the Lamb, of Christ the true martyr, whose death testifies that our redemption is won. We “follow the Lamb wherever he goes” (Rev. 14:3, 4), for He will bring our tears to an end.

Catechism for the Week: Conclusion of the Lord’s Prayer

Conclusion [For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.]* Amen.

What does this (amen) mean? I should be certain that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and are heard by Him. For He Himself has commanded us so to pray this way and has promised that He will hear us. Amen, Amen; that is, “Yes, yes, it shall be so.”

**These words were not originally in Luther’s Small Catechism*

Prayers:

Lord God, heavenly Father, who by St. Simeon prophesied that Christ, Your Son, was appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel: enlighten our hearts, we beseech You, by Your Holy Spirit, that rightly knowing Your Son, Christ Jesus, we may cling to Him in every distress and danger, rise in Him, and not be offended at Him with the blind and complacent world, but be bold and confident in whatever suffering and tribulation we meet for the sake of Your Word and confession. For it is certain that those who persecute Your Word have no part in Your kingdom, but those who believe and abide in it have eternal salvation. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Mark Siddons, Rebecca Rauterberg, Betty Beierle, Arnie Oelkers, Carol Smith

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

Savior of the Nations, Come (LSB 332/ TLH 95)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Augsburg Confession p. 102-116

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (CPH)