

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following*

**Conversion of St. Paul – January 25, 2026**

*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 95:1-9 (or the Venite from Matins)**

### **Verse of the Month**

Psalm 1:5 “Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.”

**10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed**

### **Hymn of the Week**

Salvation Unto Us Has Come (LSB 555/TLH 377)

### **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 Septuagesima**

Monday: Daniel 9:2-10

Tuesday: I Corinthians 9:24—10:4

Wednesday: Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday: The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness. (Ex 17:1-7) They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them. (Mt 20:1-16) They charged him with being unfair. But in fact he was not being unfair but generous. The Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first, those who rely on their own merits, will be last. "Their bodies were scattered in the wilderness." But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock. (1 Cor 9:24~10:5) He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin. Therefore, "Let him who glories, glory in the Lord." (Jeremiah 9:23-24)

### **Catechism for the Week: How the Unlearned Should Be Taught to Confess.**

*What is Confession?* Confession has two parts: the one is that we confess our sins; the other is that we receive Absolution, or forgiveness, from the confessor, as from God Himself, and in no way doubt, but firmly believe that our sins are forgiven before God in heaven [by this].

*What sins should we confess?* Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even of those that we do not know, as we do in the Lord’s Prayer. But before the confessor we should confess only those sins that we know and feel in our hearts.

*Which are these?* Here consider your calling according to the Ten Commandments, whether you are a father, mother, son, daughter, master, mistress, a manservant or maidservant. Consider whether you have been disobedient, unfaithful, or slothful. Consider whether you have grieved anyone by words or deeds, whether you have stolen, neglected, wasted, or done other harm.

### **Prayers:**

#### **Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)**

Lord God, heavenly Father, who by Your precious Word have called us into Your vineyard: we beseech You to send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may labor faithfully in that vineyard, keep ourselves from sin and every offense, study Your Word and will, and put all our hope only in Your grace, which You have plentifully demonstrated to us through Your Son, Jesus Christ, and so obtain eternal salvation. Amen.

#### **In Our Prayers This Week:**

Mark Siddons, 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**

Of the Father’s Love Begotten (LSB 384/TLH 98)

### **Reading from the Book of Concord**

Portions of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession p. 167-174  
From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)