

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Oculi – March 8, 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 132:8-18

Verse of the Month

Psalm 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Week

Jesus, Priceless Treasure (LSB 743/TLH 347)

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 Laetare (Fourth Sunday in Lent)

Monday: Exodus 16:2-21

Tuesday: Galatians 4:22-5:1a

Wednesday: John 6:1-15

Thursday: The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness. (Ex 16:2-21) Now He who is Himself the Living Bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the 5000. (Jn 6:1-15) This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude followed Jesus across the Sea, when He went up on a mountain. Thus we see that Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mt. Sinai and makes us free children of the promise. (Gal 4:21-31) Five loaves become twelve baskets, that is, the five books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the Bread of Life, which is the body of Christ together with His precious blood, and in the prayers. (Acts 2:41-47) So it is that God's people "shall neither hunger nor thirst." (Is 49:8-13) For He abundantly provides for them in both body and soul.

Catechism for the Week: Daily Prayers: Luther's Morning Prayer

How the head of the family should teach his household to bless themselves in the morning and evening.

In the morning, when you rise, you shall bless yourself with the holy cross and say:

In the name of God the Father, T Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then, kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you choose, you may, in addition, say this little 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.

Then go to your work with joy, singing a hymn, like one on the Ten Commandments, or what your devotion may suggest.

Prayers:

Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

Lord God, heavenly Father, who by Your Son in the wilderness bountifully fed five thousand men, besides women and children, with only five loaves and two fish: we beseech You graciously to visit us also with Your blessings and to protect us from covetousness and cares for this life, that we may seek first Your kingdom and righteousness, and mercifully be made to know Your generous, fatherly goodness in all our needs of body and soul; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Mark Siddons, Betty Beierle, Carol Smith, Ruby Gobel

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.

Mealttime 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

Kyrie! God, Father (LSB 942 / TLH 6)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession p. 215-226

From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)