

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Judica – March 22, 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 31:9-16

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

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: Daily Prayers: Asking a Blessing

The children and servants shall go to the table with folded hands and reverently, and say: 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. (Psalm 145:15-16 KJV)

Note: To satisfy the desire means that all animals receive so much to eat that they are on this account joyful and of good cheer; for care and avarice hinder such satisfaction.

Then the Lord's Prayer, and the prayer here following: Lord God, Heavenly Father, bless us and these Thy gifts, which we take from Thy bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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, Betty Beierle

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. 235-244

From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)