

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the Week of Exaudi

May 24th through May 30th, 2020

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the selection from the catechism, memory verse, and catechism hymn stanza(s) for the week.

In the name of the Father and of the ⁺ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Ten Commandments

Apostles' Creed

The Catechism – Confession

What is confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

The Large Catechism – Confession

Concerning confession we have always taught that it should be voluntary and purged of the pope's tyranny. We have been set free from his coercion and from the intolerable burden and weight he imposed upon the Christian community. Up to now, as we all know from experience, there has been no law quite so oppressive as that which forced everyone to make confession on pain of the gravest mortal sin. Moreover, it so greatly burdened and tortured consciences with the enumeration of all kinds of sin that no one was able to confess purely enough. Worst of all, no one taught or understood what confession is and how useful and comforting it is. Instead, it was made sheer anguish and a hellish torture because people had to make confession even though nothing was more hateful to them. These three things have now been removed and made voluntary: that we may confess without coercion or fear; that we are released from the torture of enumerating all sins in detail; finally, that we have the advantage of knowing how to use confession beneficially for the comforting and strengthening of our conscience. – Large Catechism

Memory Verse

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8–9)

Daily Readings

Sunday, May 24:	Numbers 14:1–25	Luke 18:18–34	Psalm 138
Monday, May 25:	Numbers 14:26–45	Luke 18:35—19:10	Psalm 114
Tuesday, May 26:	Numbers 16:1–22	Luke 19:11–28	Psalm 34
Wednesday, May 27:	Numbers 13:23–40	Luke 19:29–48	Psalm 27

Thursday, May 28:	Numbers 16:41—17:13	Luke 20:1–18	Psalm 93
Friday, May 29:	Numbers 20:1–21	Luke 20:19–44	Psalm 97
Saturday, May 30:	Numbers 20:22—21:9	Luke 20:45—21:19	Psalm 98

Prayers

Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord’s resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

O Lord, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers:

Our Church: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Our Synod:** Matthew (Synod President), Timothy (District President), Aaron (Circuit Visitor). **Circuit 7 Vacancies:** Trinity Lutheran Church-Centralia. **Those Who are Expecting:** Sami Borcharding (David & Sheri Nolte’s daughter). **For Those Who Mourn:** The family and friends who mourn the death of Wilbert Dorries (Karen Maschhoff’s father). **Those in Need of Healing:** All affected and sick on account of the Coronavirus, Sandy Wehking (battling cancer), Kate Schilling, Randy Zimmermann, Jonathan Siddell, Ryan Rounkles (Brother-in-Law of Marla Corry), Rodney Tate, Baker Firebaugh (great nephew of Opal Jones). **Homebound Members:** Mary Boeker, Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz, Connie Schilling. **Baptismal Birthdays:** 25th Jennifer Brink, 26th Sara Kuper, 27th Hudson Hanke, Opal Jones, Eli Kuper, 28th Michael Brinkmann, 30th Ben Schatz, Jaime Schneider, Steve Hoffmann. **For Government Officials:** Donald Trump (President), JB Pritzker (Governor), and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. **For Those Who Serve:** Armed Forces, First Responders, Medical Field. **That God would deliver the world from pestilence, sedition, rebellion, and economic strife.**

Look upon them with eyes of Your mercy; grant them comfort and sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

Morning or Evening Prayer