

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity*

November 8<sup>th</sup> through November 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 and memory verse for the week.

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

### **The Ten Commandments**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

### **The Catechism – 1<sup>st</sup> Article**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

**Large Catechism** - What is meant by these words when you say, “I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth”? Answer: I hold and believe that I am God’s creature, that is, that he has given me and constantly sustains my body, soul, and life. Moreover, we also confess that God the Father has given us not only all that we have and what we see before our eyes, but also that he daily guards and defends us against every evil and misfortune, warding off all sorts of danger and disaster. All this he does out of pure love and goodness, without our merit, as a kind father who cares for us so that no evil may befall us. Hence, it inevitably follows that we are in duty bound to love, praise, and thank him without ceasing. Whenever we escape distress or danger, we should recognize how God gives and does all of this so that we may sense and see in them his

fatherly heart and his boundless love toward us. Thus our hearts will be warmed and kindled with gratitude to God and a desire to use all these blessings to his glory and praise. – *Large Catechism*

**Memory Verse** – In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made (John 1:1-3)

Daily Readings	Bible Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant Matthew 18:21-35		Psalm 78
Monday	Ehud, Israel's Left-Handed Judge Judges 3:12-31	Ephesians 4:1-6	Psalm 79
Tuesday	Deborah the Prophetess Judges Israel Judges 4:1-24	Ephesians 4:7-16	Psalm 80
Wednesday	The Angel of the Lord Appears to Gideon Judges 6:1-6, 11-27	Ephesians 4:17-24	Psalm 81
Thursday	The Sign of the Fleece Judges 6:28-40	Ephesians 4:25-32	Psalm 82
Friday	The Lord Gives Victory to Gideon w/300 Men Judges 7:1-23	Ephesians 5:1-7	Psalm 83
Saturday	The Excellence of Wisdom Proverbs 8:11-22	Ephesians 5:8-14	Psalm 84

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 Recovering from Surgery:** Sam Tepe (Angie Siddell's brother), Barb Mueller, Jason Brammeier. **Those Who Are Hospitalized:** Melvin & Naomi Eggerman (Mike Eggerman's parents, due to the coronavirus). **Those Who Are Sick & Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Randy Zimmermann, Rodney Tate, Todd Twenhafel (son-in-law of Roger & Joan Knolhoff, ongoing cancer treatments). **Homebound Members:** Mary Boeker, Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul

Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz, Connie Schilling. **Baptismal Birthdays:** 11<sup>th</sup> Riley Terry, 14<sup>th</sup> Raeshelle Bray. **Anniversaries:** 11<sup>th</sup> Steve & Cindy Hoffmann. **For Area Schools:** That faculty and students may delight in teaching and learning, and that they may be kept safe from the pandemic. **For Government Officials:** Donald Trump (President), JB Pritzker (Governor), and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. **For the World:** That God would deliver us from pestilence, sedition, rebellion, and 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.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Morning or Evening Prayer (From the Small Catechism)**

**Hymn of the Week:** Chief of Sinners Though I Be (LSB 611)

**Hymn of the Week:** "Chief of Sinner Though I Be" was written by William McComb (1793-1873). This hymn expresses the faith of a forgiven sinner. The first four stanzas are a meditation on Christ's redemptive work. The fifth stanza turns the meditation into a prayer for perseverance. Throughout the hymn, the author weaves together images and phrases that recall several Bible passages in order to confess his confidence in the work of Jesus on behalf of sinners, applying them especially to the individual, that is, to me personally.