

The Congregation at Prayer

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

November 15th through November 21st, 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 – 2nd Article

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Plate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Large Catechism: Let this, then, be the sum of this article that the little word Lord signifies simply as much as Redeemer, i.e., He who has brought us from Satan to God, from death to life, from sin to righteousness, and who preserves us in the same. But all the points which follow in order in this article serve no other end than to explain and express this redemption, how and whereby it was accomplished, that is, how much it cost Him, and what He spent and risked that He might win us and bring us under His dominion, namely, that He became man, conceived and born without [any stain of] sin, of the Holy Ghost and of the Virgin Mary, that He might overcome sin; moreover, that He suffered, died and was buried, that He might make satisfaction for me and pay

what I owe, not with silver nor gold, but with His own precious blood. And all this, in order to become my Lord; for He did none of these for Himself, nor had He any need of it. And after that He rose again from the dead, swallowed up and devoured death, and finally ascended into heaven and assumed the government at the Father's right hand, so that the devil and all powers must be subject to Him and lie at His feet, until finally, at the last day, He will completely part and separate us from the wicked world, the devil, death, sin, etc.

Memory Verse – The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

Daily Readings	Bible Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Matthew 22:15-22		Psalm 85
Monday	The Birth of Samson Judges 13:1-25	Ephesians 5:15-21	Psalm 86
Tuesday	Samson's Philistine Wife and His Riddle Judges 14:1-20	Ephesians 5:22-33	Psalm 87
Wednesday	The Foxes, Torches, & the Jawbone of a Donkey Judges 15:1-20	Ephesians 6:1-9	Psalm 88
Thursday	Samson and Delilah Judges 16:1-31	Philippians 1:1-11	Psalm 89
Friday	The Family of Elimelech and Naomi Ruth 1:1-22	Philippians 1:12-26	Psalm 90
Saturday	The New Heavens and New Earth Isaiah 65:17-25	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Psalm 91

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. **For Those Who Mourn:** Mike Eggerman and Family at the death of his parents Melvin & Naomi. **Those Recovering from Surgery:** Sam Tepe (Angie Siddell's brother), Barb Mueller, Jason Brammeier. **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:** 16th Blake Hanke, 18th Alivia Childress, Jenson Langenhorst, 21st Trevor Albers, Jenna Kleiboeker, Paul Kleiboeker. **Anniversaries:** 18th Melissa & Dale Winkeler. **For Area Schools:** That faculty and students may delight in teaching and learning, and that they may be kept safe from the pandemic. **Thanksgiving:** For those who served in the Armed Forces. **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: Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode (LSB 714)

Hymn of the Week: "Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode" (LSB 714) was penned by Joachim Magdeburg (c. 1525- after 1587). This hymn presents Magdeburg's trust that Christ not only forgives sins but also provides protection in the face of the fears, weaknesses, enemies, and tribulations that afflict believers. Christ's salvation governs their lives even when all these foes attack and undermine the well-being of Christ's own. Jesus bestows strength on believers in the face of Satan's hostility and the world's mockery, both of which Magdeburg had often endured.