

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 22nd through November 28th, 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.

Augsburg Confession: Also they teach that the Word, that is, the Son of God, did assume the human nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary, so that there are two natures, the divine and the human, inseparably enjoined in one Person, one Christ, true God and true man, who was born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, that He might reconcile the Father unto us, and be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for all actual sins of men. He also descended into hell, and truly rose again the third day; afterward He ascended into heaven that He might sit on the right

hand of the Father, and forever reign and have dominion over all creatures, and sanctify them that believe in Him, by sending the Holy Ghost into their hearts, to rule, comfort, and quicken them, and to defend them against the devil and the power of sin. The same Christ shall openly come again to judge the quick and the dead, etc., according to the Apostles' Creed.

Memory Verse – He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:5).

Daily Readings	Bible Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins Matthew 25:1-13		Psalm 92
Monday	Ruth Gleans Grain in the Field of Boaz Ruth 2:1-23	Philippians 1:27-2:4	Psalm 93
Tuesday	Boaz Decides to Redeem Ruth Ruth 3:1-18	Philippians 2:5-11	Psalm 94
Wednesday	Boaz Receives the Right of Redemption from the Near Kinsman Ruth 4:1-22	Philippians 2:12-18	Psalm 95
Thursday	Thanksgiving Philippians 4:6-20	Luke 17:11-19	Psalm 96
Friday	Thanksgiving Break 1 Timothy 2:1-4		Psalm 97
Saturday	Christ is our Righteousness Jeremiah 23:5-8	Romans 13:11-14	Psalm 98

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 Hospitalized:** Rhonda Morgan (Karen Yardley's mother). **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:** 25th Nick Nolte, 27th Doris Brammeier, Sheri Nolte. **Anniversaries:** 26th Mike & Opal Jones, 28th Mark & Susan Kleiboeker. **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: Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying (516)

Hymn of the Week: "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying" is composed by Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608). The hymn's theme comes from the parable of the wise and foolish virgins. Stanza 1 starts with a joyful shout that Jesus the bridegroom has arrived and the wedding can commence. Yet, this is no ordinary wedding, for it is the Church, the new Jerusalem, that is gathered to await the coming of her Lord. In stanza 2, the church hears the watchmen's joyous announcement. She quickly rises for her Lord has arrived to claim her. The third and final stanza gives us what Jesus' parable omitted; namely, the end of the story. We find see the wedding party enters the hall to joyful music that praises God for all eternity.