

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 17th through January 23rd, 2021

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 – 4th Petition

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean?

God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread?

Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Large Catechism: When you say and ask for “daily bread,” you ask for everything that is necessary in order to have and enjoy daily bread and, on the contrary, against everything that interferes with enjoying it. You must therefore expand and extend your thoughts to include not just the oven or the flour bin, but also the broad fields and the whole land that produce and provide our daily bread and all kinds of sustenance for us. For if God did not cause grain to grow and did not bless it and preserve it in the field, we could never have a loaf of bread to take from the oven or to set upon the table. God wishes to show us how he cares for us in all our needs and faithfully provides for our daily sustenance. Although he gives

and provides these blessings bountifully, even to the godless and rogues, yet he wishes us to ask for them so that we may realize that we have received them from his hand and may recognize in them his fatherly goodness toward us. – *Large Catechism*

Memory Verse – The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand; You satisfy the desire of every living thing (Psalm 145:15-16).

| Daily Readings | Bible Narrative | Second Reading | Psalm |
|----------------|---|-----------------|-----------|
| Sunday | The Wedding in Cana of Galilee John 2:1-11 | | Psalm 148 |
| Monday | Noah and the Flood Genesis 6:5, 13, 17-19; 7:11-12, 16-17, 21-23 | Isaiah 54:4-10 | Psalm 149 |
| Tuesday | Noah and the Flood Genesis 8:1a, 15-22; 9:1-17 | 1 Peter 3:18-22 | Psalm 150 |
| Wednesday | The Red Sea Exodus 13:17-14:31 | Psalm 106:1-12 | Psalm 1 |
| Thursday | Israel Crosses the Jordan Joshua 1:1-2, 10-11; 3:1-17 | Mark 1:1-15 | Psalm 2 |
| Friday | Namaan's Leprosy Is Cleansed 2 Kings 5:1-14 | Titus 3:3-8 | Psalm 3 |
| Saturday | The Glory of God Is Reflected in Moses' Face Exodus 34:29-35 | 2 Peter 1:16-21 | Psalm 4 |

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 Mourn:** The Steve Hoffmann family at the death of Steve's grandmother, Emi Jackson. **Prayers for Healing:** Sharon Hanke. **Those Recovering from Illness and Surgery:** Rhonda Morgan (Karen Yardley's mother), Sam Tepe (Angie Siddell's brother), Barb Mueller. **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:** 17th Amanda Brink, Lois Brink, Nathan Brink, 19th Silas Jennings, 19th Jackson Kleiboeker, 20th Marilyn Edwards. **Anniversaries:** 18th Wayne & Jennifer Brink. **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: The Only Son from Heaven (LSB 402)