

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week of Quinquagesima*

February 14<sup>th</sup> through February 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 – Conclusion**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

*What does this mean?*

This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us.

Amen, amen, means, “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

**Large Catechism:** The efficacy of prayer consists in our learning also to say Amen to it—that is, not to doubt that our prayer is surely heard and will be answered. This word is nothing else than an unquestioning word of faith on the part of the one who does not pray as a matter of luck but knows that God does not lie because he has promised to grant it. Where there is no faith like this, there also can be no true prayer. It is therefore a pernicious delusion when people pray in such a way that they dare not wholeheartedly add “Yes” and conclude with certainty that God hears their prayer. Instead, they remain in doubt, saying, “Why should I be so bold as to boast that God hears my prayer? I am only a poor sinner,” etc. That means that they are looking not at God’s promise but at their own works and worthiness, and thereby they despise God and accuse him of lying. Therefore they receive nothing, as St. James says, “But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; for the

doubter ... must not expect to receive anything from the Lord.” Look! God has attached much importance to our being certain so that we do not pray in vain or despise our prayers in any way. – *Large Catechism*

**Memory Verse** – Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:16)

Daily Readings	Bible Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Jesus Gives Sight to a Blind Man Luke 18:31-43		Psalm 26
Monday	Love for the Brother 1 John 4:7-21	John 1:1-14	Psalm 27
Tuesday	The Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life Genesis 2:4-17	1 Corinthians 11:17-26	Psalm 28
Wednesday	Nineveh Repeats in Sackcloth Jonah 3:1-10	Matthew 6:16-21	Psalm 29
Thursday	The Passover Exodus 12:1-14, 17	Matthew 26:17-30	Psalm 30
Friday	The Wedding in Cana of Galilee John 2:1-11	1 Corinthians 10:14-21	Psalm 31
Saturday	The Fall into Sin Genesis 3:1-21	Hebrews 4:14-16	Psalm 32

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 Undergoing Medical Treatment:** Mindy Wicklander (Sam & Angie Siddell’s daughter). **Those Recovering from Illness and Surgery:** Sharon Hanke, 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:** 14<sup>th</sup> Norman Kleiboeker, 17<sup>th</sup> Brian Edwards, 18<sup>th</sup> Norma Rueter, 19<sup>th</sup> Lynn Michael, 20<sup>th</sup> Jason Brinkmann. **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:** Joe Biden (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:** Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (LSB 685)