

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week of the First Sunday in Lent  
(Invocabit)*

February 21<sup>st</sup> through February 27<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** – What is Baptism? Which is that word of God

*What is Baptism?*

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

*Which is that word of God?*

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: **“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19)**

**Large Catechism:** What is baptism? It is not simply plain water, but water placed in the setting of God's Word and commandment and made holy by them. It is nothing else than God's water, not that the water itself is nobler than other water but that God's Word and commandment are added to it. Therefore it is sheer wickedness and devilish blasphemy that now, in order to blaspheme baptism, our new spirits set aside God's Word and ordinance, consider nothing but the water drawn from the well, and then babble, “How can a handful of water help the soul?” Yes, my friend! Who does not know that water is water, if it is considered separately? But how dare you tamper thus with God's ordinance and rip out his most precious jewel, in which God has fastened and enclosed his ordinance and from which he does not wish it to be separated? For the real significance of the water lies in God's Word or commandment and God's name, and this treasure is greater and nobler than heaven and earth. – *Large Catechism*

**Memory Verse** – Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” (John 3:5–6)

Daily Readings	Bible Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Temptation of Our Lord Matthew 4:1-11		Psalm 33
Monday	The Bread from Heaven Exodus 16:1-15, 31	John 6:26-40	Psalm 34
Tuesday	The Water from Rock Exodus 17:1-7	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Psalm 35
Wednesday	Cain Murders Abel Genesis 4:1-14	1 John 3:10-16	Psalm 36
Thursday	The Golden Calf Exodus 32:1-20	Hebrews 10:11-25	Psalm 37
Friday	Touching the Hem of His Garment Luke 8:40-56	John 6:41-58	Psalm 38
Saturday	Jacob Wrestles with the Lord Genesis 32:22-2	Romans 5:1-4	Psalm 39

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. **Rejoicing for Good Test Results:** Mindy Wicklander (Sam & Angie Siddell’s daughter). **Those Recovering from Illness and Surgery:** Sharon Hanke, 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:** Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz, Connie Schilling. **Baptismal Birthdays:** 22<sup>nd</sup> Wayne Brink, Chase Roethemeyer, 23<sup>rd</sup> Curt Rueter, 24<sup>th</sup> Janette Albers, 25<sup>th</sup> Tucker Albers, 26<sup>th</sup> Dennis Lange, 27<sup>th</sup> Adrienne Brammeier. **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: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (LSB 656)**