

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week of Palmarum

March 28th through April 3rd, 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 sins should we confess? Which are these?

What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

Which are these?

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

Large Catechism: Besides the public, daily, and necessary confession, which we have in the Lord's Prayer, there is also the secret confession that takes place privately before a single brother or sister. This comes into play when some particular issue weighs on us or attacks us, eating away at us until we can have no peace nor find ourselves sufficiently strong in faith. Then we may at any time and as often as we wish lay our troubles before a brother or sister, seeking advice, comfort, and strength. This type of confession is not included in the commandment but is left to all to use whenever they need it. Thus by divine ordinance Christ himself has placed absolution in the mouths of his Christian community and commanded us to absolve one another from sins. So if there is a heart that feels its sin and desires comfort, it has here a sure refuge where it finds and hears

God's Word because through a human being God looses and absolves from sin. – *Large Catechism*

Memory Verse – If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared (Psalm 130:3-4).

Daily Readings	Bible Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Passion According to Mark Mark 14:1–15:47		Psalm 68
Monday	Jesus' Betrayal and Arrest John 18:1-27	Lamentations 3:19-33	Psalm 69
Tuesday	Jesus Faces Pontius Pilate John 18:28-40	Isaiah 52:4-10	Psalm 70
Wednesday	The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace Daniel 3:1-25	1 John 5:1-5	Psalm 71
Thursday	Jesus Is Crucified John 19:1-24	Psalm 22	Psalm 72
Friday	Jesus' Side Is Pierced John 19:25-42	Isaiah 52:13–53:12	Psalm 73
Saturday	Daniel Is Cast into the Den of Lions Daniel 6:1-24	1 Peter 3:17-22	Psalm 74

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:** Sharon Hanke. **Those Who Are Sick & Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Barb Mueller, Randy Zimmermann, Rodney Tate. **Homebound Members:** Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz, Connie Schilling. **Baptismal Birthdays:** 28th Peggy Zimmermann, 1st Diane Buening, 2nd Brandi Gehrs, Jacob Nolte, Mary Nolte, 3rd 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:** 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 Lamb goes Uncomplaining Forth (LSB 438)