

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following  
the Baptism of Our Lord (January 7<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> )*

### **CATECHETICAL THEME:**

***Introduction to the Lord's Prayer***

#### **This Week's Catechetical Theme: Introduction to the Lord's Prayer**

When Jesus teaches us to pray, He teaches us to say, "Our Father, who art in heaven." Notice that the word is "our," not "my," for you are not an only child. On the contrary, you are baptized children, with brothers and sisters as numerous as the stars in the sky and the grains of sand on the seashore. And so, in this prayer, your voice is joined to that of the whole Christian Church and also with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. And to whom do you pray? To your Father; your loving heavenly Father, who delights to hear and receive your prayers. Martin Luther teaches us that, with these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father, and that we are His true children." And so, as His children, we can pray with all boldness and confidence, as little children speak to, and ask from, their own dear fathers. This is the subject of the week's devotional material. God bless your time in His Word!

**Invocation:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### **The Ten Commandments & The Apostles' Creed**

**The Catechism:** Introduction to the Lord's Prayer

With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that he is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

<b>Daily Readings</b>	<b>Catechetical Narrative</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Baptism of Our Lord Matthew 3:13-17</b>		<b>Psalm 76</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Children of God 1 John 3:1 &amp; 2 Corinthians 6:18</b>	<b>2 Samuel 22</b>	<b>Psalm 77</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Adopted by God Romans 8:15-16</b>	<b>2 Samuel 23</b>	<b>Psalm 78</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Abraham Prays for Sodom</b>	<b>2 Samuel 24</b>	<b>Psalm 79</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Daniel Continues to Pray Daniel 6:1-28</b>	<b>1 Kings 1</b>	<b>Psalm 80</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>The Lost Son Luke 15:11-32</b>	<b>1 Kings 2</b>	<b>Psalm 81</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Exodus 33:12-23</b>	<b>Romans 12:6-16</b>	<b>Psalm 82</b>

## Questions to Discuss in the Home

**Sun:** Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon-Fri:** For each day's reading, answer the following questions: 1) What does the passage teach us about prayer? 2) In what way do we see prayer being used? 3) What does the passage teach us about our relationship to God? 4) What sin does this passage reveal? 5) What work or promise of God does this passage reveal? What comfort does this passage bring? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

## 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)

## In Our Prayers this Week

**For Circuit Vacancies:** Faith Lutheran (Flora), Trinity Lutheran (Iuka), Faith Lutheran (Mt. Vernon), Messiah Lutheran (Carlyle). **For Those in Need of Healing:** Matt Nolte, Curtis French, Norma Rueter. **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments/Testing:** Eli Kuper, Marla Corry, Beth Jones (daughter-in-law of Mike Jones), Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann), Alexis Tehandon (Granddaughter of Debra Wells). **For Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Barb Mueller, Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann. **For Those Homebound:** George & Melba Nolte, Mary Boeker, Earlene Lange, Lois Michael, Ruth Onken, Betty Sprehe. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Brent Hanke (1/7)

**The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism**  
**Hymn of the Week: To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord (406)**