

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Devotion and Prayer

Read, pray and confess out loud as much from the order of devotion and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week. This can be used with Daily Prayer for individuals and families found on LSB pg 294-298 or a daily office such as Matins or Vespers found on LSB pg 219-259.

The Order for Devotion and Prayer

Beginning Sunday, December 17, 2023 – Third Sunday in Advent

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Verse of the Week—Isaiah 40:11

He will tend His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs in His arms; He will carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Psalm of the week—Psalm 85

Hymn of the Week—LSB 344 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Readings of the Week

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sun.	Behold the Lamb of God—John 1:6-8, 19-28	
Mon.	The Benedictus—Luke 1:67-80	Leviticus 26:40-45
Tues.	Christ's Birth is Foretold to Joseph—Matthew 1:18-25	Isaiah 7:10-14
Wed.	Advent: Gabriel Appears to Zachariah—Luke 1:5-25	Hebrews 12:1-2
Thurs.	St. Thomas, Apostle —John 20:24-29	Ephesians 4:7-16
Fri.	The Nativity of Our Lord—Luke 2:1-7	Ex. 40:1-3, 16-38
Sat.	The Birth of Christ Is Announced to Shepherds—Luke 2:8-20	Isaiah 52:6-10

The Catechism

<i>To Husbands</i> Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. 1 Peter 3:7 Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Col. 3:19	5th Grade+
<i>To Wives</i> Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. Eph. 5:22 They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. 1 Peter 3:5-6	5th Grade+

Apostle's Creed

Prayers

Collect for the week

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday: For the joy of the Resurrection; for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday: For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for vocations and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for our schools, our home schools, our colleges and seminaries; for good government and peace.
- Tuesday: For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.
- Wednesday: For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must rear their children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday: For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other servants of Christ and His Church; for the fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.
- Friday: For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for its spread throughout the whole world; for the persecuted; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday: For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for pastors as they prepare to administer Christ's holy gifts; for receptive hearts and minds on the Lord's Day.

In Our Prayers This Week (Personal and/or Congregational Prayers)

Lord's Prayer

Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism (LSB pg. 327)

Closing

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.