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# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

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*The Week of the celebration of Christ the King  
November 24-30, 2015*

## THE ORDER OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER

*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. If able, the head of the home should take the role of "Leader" (L) and the family the role of "Congregant" (C). The whole family should try to learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

**Theme:** *All that We Are and Have Is the Lord's.*

### INVOCATION

**L** In the name of the Father, and of the Son  $\text{✠}$ , and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### APOSTLES' CREED

### VERSE

*Romans 10:17*

**L** Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message,

**C** and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

### DAILY PSALM

*The leader may read the appointed Psalm for the day. If applicable, members of the family may take turns reading the Psalm for the Day.*

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Morning	107	109	112,113	115	117,118	119:1-24	119:49-72
Evening	108	110,111	114	116	120,121	119:25-48	119:73-88

### PSALM PRAYER

**L** Almighty God, grant us a steadfast faith in Jesus Christ, a cheerful hope in Your mercy, and a sincere love for You and one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**C** Amen.

<b>L</b> What is the Second Article?	
<b>C</b> I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.	<i>Preschool +</i>
<b>L</b> What does this mean?	
<b>C</b> I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.	<i>First Grade +</i>
<b>C</b> But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.  In this Christian church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.  On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.  This is most certainly true.	<i>Second Grade +</i>

## DAILY READINGS

	Bible Stories for the Family		Through the Bible in Two Years
<b>Tuesday</b>	Elijah ascends to heaven.	2 Kings 2:1-15	Daniel 7-8
<b>Wednesday</b>	Elisha performs miracles.	2 Kings 2:19-25	Daniel 9
<b>Thursday</b>	Elisha and the water from Edom	2 Kings 3:1-27	Daniel 10
<b>Friday</b>	Look-ahead to Sunday's Epistle	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Daniel 11-12
<b>Saturday</b>	Look-ahead to Sunday's Gospel	Luke 21:25-36	Hosea 1-2
<b>Sunday</b>	Elisha and the widow's oil	2 Kings 4:1-7	Hosea 3-4
<b>Monday</b>	Elisha raises the Shunammite's son	2 Kings 4:8-37	Hosea 5-6

## PRAYERS

*Collect for Christ the King Sunday:*

- L** Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Daily Themes for Prayer

- Tuesday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling sin.*
- Thursday:** *Pray 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 raise children alone; for single persons, that they may be at peace in their lives and realize God's plan for them.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*
- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*

## In Our Prayers this Week

Out of thanks, for all of the immense blessings our Lord showers upon us every day in body and life.

Our shut-ins, that they may be comforted in their loneliness by your gracious presence.

The congregation of Christ in Grand Island, NE, as they continue to issue calls to fill their vacant pastor position.

Pastor Steve Kruschel of Geneva and Sutton, NE, as he and his family consider a call to Eden Prairie, MN.

Pastor Earle Treptow, as he and his family make the transition to Mequon, WI after accepting the call to serve as professor at the Seminary.

Pastor Phillip Hirsch, as he begins the process of taking over the duties of District President of the Nebraska District.

Marinda Ledermann, wife of seminary student, Gunnar Ledermann, who continues to recover after suffering a stroke cause by cranial bleeding.

John & Lynnette Lafferty, as they celebrate their wedding anniversary this week.

Deb Bridge and Jim Cantrell, as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

## LORD'S PRAYER

- C** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

# LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

## Morning

**C** In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.<sup>1</sup>

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## Evening

**C** In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.<sup>1</sup>

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## HYMN

Let All Things Now Living | CW 260

1 Let all things now liv-ing A song of thanks-giv-ing  
2 His law he en-forc-es; The stars in their cours-es

To God the Cre-a-tor tri-um-phant-ly raise,  
And sun in its or-bit o-be-dient-ly shine.

Who fash-ioned and made us, Pro-tect-ed and stayed us,  
The hills and the moun-tains, The riv-ers and foun-tains,

Who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
The deeps of the o-cean pro-claim him di-vine.

God's ban-ners are o'er us; His light goes be-fore us,  
We, too, should be voic-ing Our love and re-joic-ing.

A pil-lar of fire shin-ing forth in the night,  
With glad ad-o-ra-tion a song let us raise

Till shad-ows have van-ish-ed And dark-ness is ban-ish-ed,  
Till all things now liv-ing U-nite in thanks-giv-ing:

As for-ward we trav-el from light in-to light.  
"To God in the high-est, ho-san-na and praise!"

<sup>1</sup> Luther, in his *Small Catechism*, encourages Christians who pray the Morning and Evening prayers: "In the morning when you get up and in the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross over your head and heart and say, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.'"