
THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

*The Second Sunday after the Epiphany of Our Lord
January 12-18, 2016*

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: Hear, and Your Soul Shall Live!

INVOCATION

L In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

VERSE

Romans 7:18

L I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells;

C for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.

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	103	99	72	1,2	5	8,9	10
Evening	93,97	96,110	100,67	3	4,6	7	11,12

PSALM PRAYER

L O Lord Jesus Christ, as a child You were seated in the Temple in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. Rule in us by Your Holy Spirit that, following Your example, we may love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells, diligently hearing Your Word with gladness and faithfully keeping it to the saving of our souls; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

L What is the Fifth Petition? C Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.	Preschool +
L What does this mean? C We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins or because of them deny our prayers; for we are worthy of none of things for which we ask, neither have we deserved them, but we ask that he would give them all to us by grace; for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will forgive from the heart and gladly do good to those who sin against us.	Second Grade +
L What is the Sixth Petition? C Lead us not into temptation.	Preschool +
L What does this mean? C God surely tempts no one to sin, but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us or lead us into false believe, despair, and other great and shameful sins; and though we are tempted by them, we pray that we may overcome and win the victory.	Third Grade +

DAILY READINGS

In 2016, we will be working through a Harmony of the Four Gospels, following Jesus' birth, life, and death chronologically as the Gospels present it.

	Bible Stories for the Family	Through the Bible in Two Years
Tuesday	Mary's visit to Elizabeth [<i>Judea; beginning of B.C. 5</i>] Luke 1:39-56	Zechariah 3
Wednesday	John the Baptist's birth [<i>Judea; the spring of B.C. 5</i>] Luke 1:57-79	Zechariah 4
Thursday	The First Lesson for the 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany Isaiah 62:1-5	Zechariah 5
Friday	The Epistle Lesson for the 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany 1 Corinthians 12:1-11	Zechariah 6
Saturday	The Gospel for the 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany John 2:1-11	Zechariah 7
Sunday	The Angel Gabriel's advice to Joseph [<i>Nazareth; B.C. 5</i>] Matthew 1:18-25a	Zechariah 8
Monday	Jesus' birth [<i>Bethlehem; the autumn of B.C. 5</i>] Luke 2:1-7; John 1:14a	Zechariah 9

PRAYERS

Collect for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany of Our Lord:

L Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, 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

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

Pastor Bob Smith of Hastings, NE, as he travels to Vietnam on behalf of the Synod to teach and preach the Gospel news.

Pastor Tom Schneider and his family as they make their move to Grand Island and is installed as Christ Ev. Lutheran's new pastor.

Marlene Hansen and Vicki Webb, as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

Our newly elected Councilmen, as well as those who continue to serve on the Council, that they may serve with zeal, diligence, and reverence for God's Word.

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.¹

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.¹

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 OF THE DAY FOR EPIPHANY 2

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise | CW 82

1 Songs of thank-ful-ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph - et, Priest, and
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole Pal - sied limbs and
 4 Sun and moon shall dark - ened be; Stars shall fall, the
 5 Grant us grace to see you, Lord, Mir - rored in your

you we raise, Man - i - fest - ed by the star
 King su - preme, And at Ca - na, Wed - ding Guest,
 faint - ing soul; Man - i - fest in val - iant fight,
 heav'n's shall flee. Christ will then like light - ning shine;
 ho - ly Word. May our lives and all we do

To the Ma - gi from a - far, Branch of roy - al
 In your God - head man - i - fest; Man - i - fest in
 Quell - ing all the dev - il's might; Man - i - fest in
 All will see his glo - rious sign. All will then the
 Im - i - tate and hon - or you That we all like

Da - vid's stem, In your birth at Beth - le - hem.
 pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine.
 gra - cious will, Ev - er bring - ing good from ill.
 trum - pet hear; All will see the judge ap - pear.
 you may be At your great e - piph - a - ny

An - thems be to you ad-dressed, God in man made man-i-fest.
 An - thems be to you ad-dressed, God in man made man-i-fest.
 An - thems be to you ad-dressed, God in man made man-i-fest.
 You by all will be con-fessed, God in man made man-i-fest.
 And may praise you, ev - er blest, God in man made man-i-fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.
 Tune: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR (77 77 D) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

¹ 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.'"