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# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

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*The Third Sunday after the Epiphany of Our Lord  
January 19-25, 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: Jesus Baptizes with the Holy Spirit and Fire!**

### INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

### APOSTLES' CREED

### VERSE

*Romans 8:26*

**L** The Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought,

**C** but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

### 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	14,15	18	19,20	22	26,27	30	32
Evening	13	16,17	21	23,24	25	28,29	31

### PSALM PRAYER

**L** O Lord, Your voice created all things and Your voice delivers salvation to Your people in the waters of Baptism, the preaching of the Gospel, and the Supper of our Lord. Give us faith always to hear Your voice of salvation and to live in the strength of Your salvation every day of our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

<b>L</b> What is the Seventh Petition? <b>C</b> But deliver us from evil.	Preschool +
<b>L</b> What does this mean? <b>C</b> In conclusion, we pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would deliver us from every evil that threatens body and soul, property and reputation, and finally when our last hour comes, grant us a blessed end and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to himself in heaven.	Second Grade +
<b>L</b> What is the Doxology of the Lord's Prayer? <b>C</b> For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.	Preschool +
<b>L</b> What does this mean? <b>C</b> We can be sure that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and are heard by him, for he himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Therefore we say, "Amen. Yes, it shall be so."	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
<b>Tuesday</b>	The Angels' proclamation to the shepherds [ <i>Near Bethlehem; autumn of B.C. 5</i> ] Luke 2:8-20	Zechariah 10
<b>Wednesday</b>	The Circumcision, Naming, and Presentation of Jesus [ <i>Jerusalem; Circumcision &amp; Naming, 8 days after birth; Presentation, 40 days after birth</i> ] Matthew 1:25b; Luke 2:21-39a	Zechariah 11
<b>Thursday</b>	The First Lesson for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany Isaiah 61:1-6	Zechariah 12
<b>Friday</b>	The Epistle Lesson for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany 1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 26, 27	Zechariah 13
<b>Saturday</b>	The Gospel for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany Luke 4:14-21	Zechariah 14
<b>Sunday</b>	The visit of the Magi from the East [ <i>Bethlehem</i> ] Matthew 2:1-12	Malachi 1-2
<b>Monday</b>	The Flight into Egypt and return to Nazareth [ <i>Egypt &amp; Nazareth; B.C. 4</i> ] Matthew 2:13-23; Luke 2:39b	Malachi 3-4

## PRAYERS

### *Collect for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany of Our Lord:*

**L** Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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*

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

*Les Adelung and Randy Kahle, along with the whole Church Council, that they faithfully and gladly serve the congregation with zeal, diligence, and reverence for God's Word.*

*Roland Adelung, for strength as he recovers from surgery this week.*

*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.*

*Megan Seelow, for strength and healing as she prepares to give birth to another son 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.

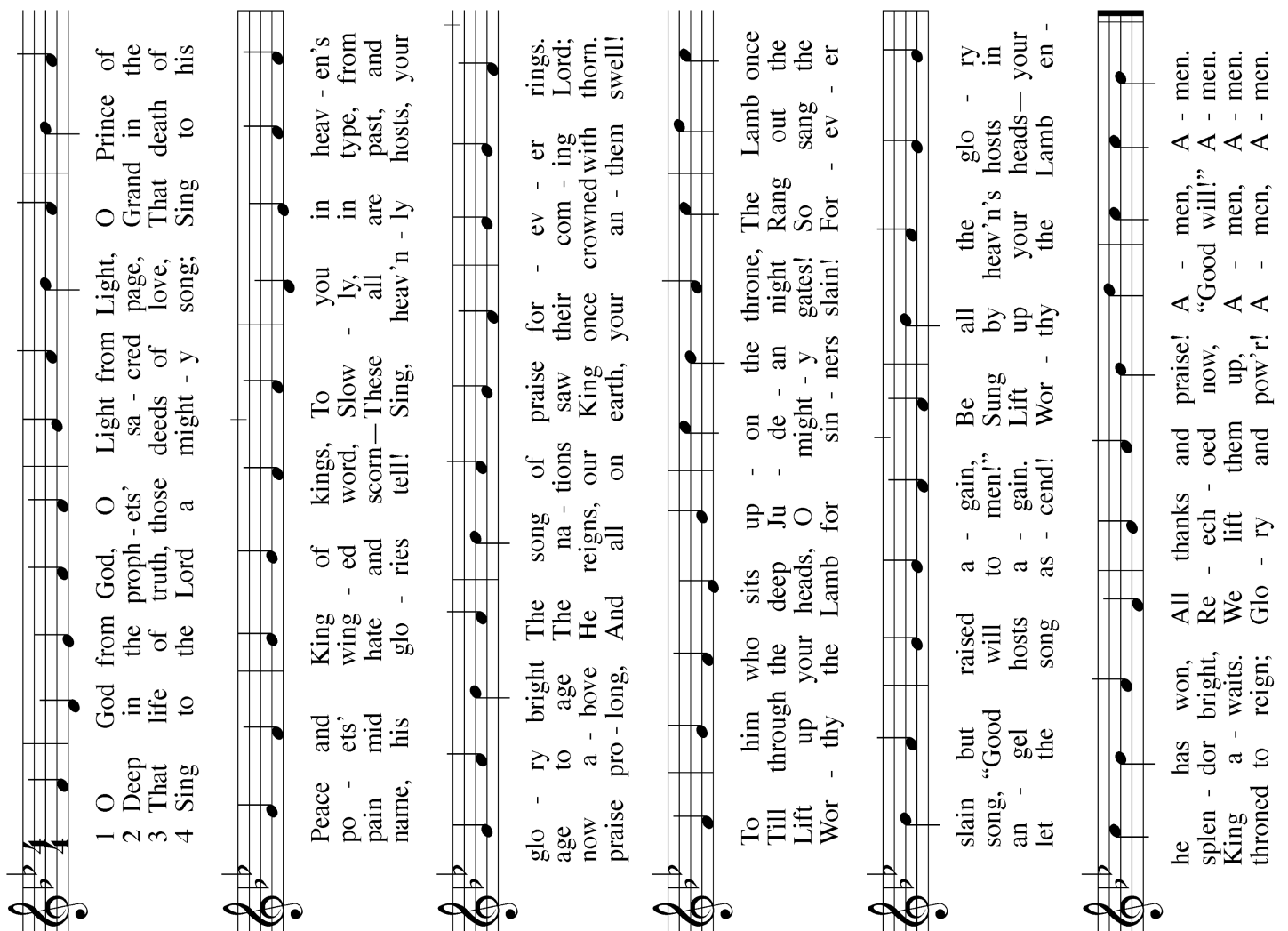
### Evening

**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 OF THE DAY FOR EPIPHANY 3

*O God from God, O Light from Light* | CW 85



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of  
 2 Deep in the proph-ets' sa-cred page, Grand in the  
 3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of  
 4 Sing to the Lord a might-y song; Sing to his

Peace and King of kings, To you in heav-en's  
 po-ets' wing-ed word, Slow-ly, in type, from  
 pain mid hate and scorn—These all are past, and  
 name, his glo-ries tell! Sing, heav'n-ly hosts, your

glo-ry bright The song of praise for-ev-er rings.  
 age to age The na-tions saw their com-ing Lord;  
 now a-bove He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.  
 praise pro-long, And all on earth, your an-them swell!

To him who sits up-on the throne, The Lamb once  
 Till through the deep Ju-de-an night Rang out the  
 Lift up your heads, O might-y gates! So sang the  
 Wor- thy the Lamb for sin-ners slain! For-ev-er

slain but raised a-gain, Be all the glo-ry  
 song, "Good will to men!" Sung by heav'n's hosts in  
 an-gel hosts a-gain. Lift up your heads—your  
 let the song as-cend! Wor- thy the Lamb en-

he has won, All thanks and praise! A-men, A-men.  
 splen-dor bright, Re-ech-oed now, "Good will!" A-men.  
 King a-waits. We lift them up, A-men, A-men.  
 throned to reign; Glo-ry and pow'r! A-men, A-men.

<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.'"