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# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

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*The Week of the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost  
October 17-23, 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 "Group" (G). The whole family should try to learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

**Theme: The Lord Avenges Us Against the Enemies of Sin, Death, and Hell.**

**Catechesis Notes for the Week— The First Article of the Creed** — "All that I am and all that I have comes from God. Apart from Him I am and have nothing." These assertions are central to the Christian teaching concerning God. They declare that we, and all of creation, are completely dependent upon Him. Even when we abuse the life and gifts that He has given, we do so by His power in us. This is what makes such evil all the more blasphemous! Martin Luther's Creedal Hymn confesses both our dependence upon God and His love for us that motivates Him to create, provide, protect, and defend us. "We all believe in one true God, who created earth and heaven. The Father who to us in love has the right of children given. He in soul and body feeds us; All we need His hand provides us; Through all snares and perils leads us, Watching that no harm betide us. He cares for us by day and night; All things are governed by His might." The Catechism helps us to understand that what He has made and given is ALWAYS good, even if our sinful human reason might not think so and might even rebel against such gifts. There is great freedom in the gift of faith that accepts the truths of the First Article. All Christians—the deaf, the blind, and the lame—still confess that God has made them, including their "eyes, ears, and all their members," even if they don't work the way they want them to work. God's created gifts are given AS THEY ARE, that we might learn to trust in Him through these gifts, extolling Him alone as God and relying upon His grace in our weakness.

## INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross ✙ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.<sup>1</sup>*

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

**G** Amen.

## APOSTLES' CREED

### VERSE

*John 1:1-3*

**G** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

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<sup>1</sup> The name of the Triune God and the sign of the cross reminds worshipers of their baptisms. Martin Luther wrote in his Small Catechism, "In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross and say, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'"



## 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.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Morning</b>	30	32	33	35	37	40	42,43
<b>Evening</b>	28,29	31	34	36	38	39,41	44

## PSALM PRAYER

**L** Faithful God, whose mercies are new to us every morning, we humbly pray that You would look upon us in mercy and renew us by Your Holy Spirit. Keep safe our going out and our coming in, and let Your blessing remain with us throughout this day. Preserve us in Your righteousness, and grant us a portion in that eternal life which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

**G** Amen.

## THE CATECHISM: THE CREED

*The First Article*

<b>L</b> What is the First Article?	<i>Preschool +</i>
<b>C</b> I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.	
<b>L</b> What does this mean?	<i>First Grade +</i>
<b>C</b> I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind, and all my abilities.	
<b>C</b> And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life. God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil. All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.	<i>Second Grade +</i>
<b>Prayer on the First Article of the Apostles' Creed:</b> <i>Lord God, heavenly Father, in the First Article of the Creed You teach us that You are the God of self-giving love. You have created us and all things out of Your fatherly divine goodness and mercy. We give thanks to You for all that You have made, for every gift of body and soul, for our talents and abilities, and for all that You have given us to preserve us each day and to make our lives enjoyable. You richly and daily provide us with all that we need to support us in this body and life, and You defend us against all danger and guard and keep us from all evil. Forgive us for not trusting in You, for failing to give thanks for all Your gifts of creation, and for not using your gifts in loving service to others. Strengthen us by Jesus' forgiveness and love to rejoice in all that You have made and to ever thank and praise, serve and obey You all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</i>	

## 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>Monday</b>	Jesus' burial	Matthew 27:57-61; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 23:50-56a; John 19:38-42	Large Catechism [LC] I:103-116
<b>Tuesday</b>	The sealing of the tomb	Matthew 27:62-66	LC I:117-133
<b>Wednesday</b>	Preparations to anoint Jesus' body	Mark 16:1; Luke 23:56b	LC I:134-148
<b>Thursday</b>	First Lesson for the Festival of St. James of Jerusalem	Acts 15:12-22a	LC I:149-165
<b>Friday</b>	Second Lesson for the Festival of St. James of Jerusalem	James 1:1-12	LC I:166-182
<b>Saturday</b>	Gospel for the Festival of St. James of Jerusalem	Matthew 13:54-58	-----
<b>Sunday</b>	The earthquake	Matthew 28:2-4	-----

**WE HAVE BEGUN A DAILY READING OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING A COPY OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS, SPEAK TO PASTOR SEELOW.**

## PRAYERS

### *Prayer for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost:*

**L** Lord, keep your household, the Church, in continual godliness and set us free from all adversities that, under your protection, we may serve you with true devotion and holy deeds; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

### *Daily Themes for Prayer*

*Tuesday: Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

*Wednesday: 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 our communities and neighborhoods.*

*Thursday: 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.*

*Friday: 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.*

*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 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.*

### ***In Our Prayers this Week***

*Abbie Hansen and Duane Lange, as they celebrate their birthdays this week, that the Lord continue to shower blessings upon them in another year of His favor and grace.*

*Austin Adelung, as he celebrates the anniversary of his baptism this week, that he continues to be reminded of the*

*blessings that he has through water and the Word, and that he continue to live a life of baptismal grace each day.*

*Those affected by Hurricane Matthew, that the Lord grant them peace which only he can give as they return to homes and communities, and that through this storm he may work repentance and turn many people back to him.*

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**G** 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***

**G** In the name of the Father, and of the Son (☩), and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.<sup>2</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***

**G** In the name of the Father, and of the Son (☩), and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.<sup>2</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.

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<sup>2</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.'"

## TRUST

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## In You, O Lord, I Put My Trust



1 In you, O Lord, I put my trust—  
 2 Oh, lis - ten, Lord, most gra - cious - ly,  
 3 You are my strength, my shield, my rock,  
 4 With you, O Lord, I cast my lot;  
 5 All hon - or, praise, and maj - es - ty



Leave me not help - less in the dust;  
 And hear my cry, my prayer, my plea;  
 My for - tress that with - stands each shock,  
 O faith - ful God, for - sake me not,  
 To Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it be,



Let me not be con - found - ed.  
 Make haste for my pro - tec - tion,  
 My help, my life, my tow - er,  
 To you my soul com - mend - ing.  
 Our God for - ev - er glo - rious,



My faith, O Lord, Must in your Word  
 For woes and fear Sur - round me here.  
 My bat - tle sword, Al - might - y Lord—  
 Lord, be my stay, And lead the way  
 In whose rich grace We run our race



Be al - ways firm - ly ground - ed.  
 Help me in my af - flic - tion.  
 What can re - sist your pow - er?  
 Now and when life is end - ing.  
 Till we de - part vic - to - rious.

Text: Adam Reusner, 1496–c. 1575, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1–4, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 5, alt.

Tune: IN DICH HAB ICH GEHOFFET (887 447) *David's Himmlische Harpfen*, Nürnberg, 1581, alt.