

# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
August 2–8, 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:** *Earthly wealth is meaningless without God.*

### 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 14:23*

- G** “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.”

### 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
<b>Morning</b>	128,129	131,132	135	137,138	140,141	144	147
<b>Evening</b>	130	133,134	136	139	142,143	145	146

### PSALM PRAYER

- L** Most merciful God and Father, You are faithful to Your promises and You call us to repentance to forgive our sin and restore us to Your salvation. Teach us to return to you daily, to listen to Your Word, and to remain steadfast in the true faith, that Your righteousness and peace might sustain us in all we do, until we enter the eternal land of rest with Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- G** Amen.

<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.’”*



## THE CATECHISM

*During the summer season, no catechetical study will take place. We will take up the 10 Commandments in a Sermon Series later this summer.*

## 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	Jesus and popular support	Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-44; John 12:12-19 Titus 2
Wednesday	A fruitless fig tree	Matthew 21:18,19; Mark 11:12-14 Titus 3
Thursday	First Lesson for the 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:18-26 Philemon
Friday	Second Lesson for the 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Colossians 3:1-11 Hebrews 1
Saturday	Gospel for the 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Luke 12:13-21 Hebrews 2
Sunday	The Second Cleansing of the Temple	Matthew 21:12-16; Mark 11:15-18; Luke 19:45-48 Hebrews 3
Monday	The significance of Jesus' approaching death	John 12:20-50 Hebrews 4

## PRAYERS

### *Prayer for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost:*

**L** O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; 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

Tracy Wenz, as she celebrates her birthday this week, that the Lord bless her with another year of his grace and mercy.

Roland Adelung, who continues to recover from a hospitalization, that the Lord grant him patience and endurance, and that the Lord grant a quick, speedy, and relatively painless recovery.

### 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.'"

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## Consider How the Birds Above



1 Con - si - der how the birds a - bove  
 2 The li - lies grow; they do not toil.  
 3 Set not your heart on food or drink,  
 4 Be on your guard a - gainst all greed,  
 5 Be not a - fraid to suf - fer loss  
 6 Seek first God's reign, his bound - less grace,



Feed day by day with care - free ease—  
 How fair is their fra - gil - i - ty—  
 Nor be weighed down by world - ly care;  
 For life is more than what we own.  
 Of all the things for which you pray;  
 His ho - ly name in all you do:



Does God not keep them in his love?  
 If God clothes these, which quick - ly spoil,  
 A - bout such things the god - less think,  
 Our Fa - ther knows our ev - 'ry need  
 For he who faced for you the cross  
 Christ first and last in ev - 'ry place;



Are we not worth much more than these?  
 Will he not clothe both you and me?  
 Yet nev - er thank the Lord in prayer.  
 Be - fore our needs to us are known.  
 Will give you strength to live each day.  
 All else will then be giv - en you.

*This paraphrase of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount reminds Christians of God's daily providence and encourages us to pursue his eternal treasures.*

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