

The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

A guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer For the Week of the 26th Sunday after Pentecost November 17 through November 23

- Invocation make the sign of the cross and say...
 In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

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.



Morning or Evening Prayer

Morning. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



Mealtime Blessing and then afterwards Returning Thanks

Blessing before meal

"The eyes of all look to You, [O LORD,] and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing." (Ps. 145: 15–16)

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. Returning Thanks after meal "Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love endures forever. [He] gives food to every creature. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the LORD delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love." (Ps. 136:1, 25; 147:9–11)

We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen



Pray the Psalms

General Wk 3	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	67, 150	57, 145	54, 146	65, 147:1-12	143, 147:13- 21	88, 148	122, 149
Evening	46, 93	85, 47	28, 99	125, 91	81, 116	6, 20	125, 90



Verse of the Week: Mark 13:13b

Alleluia. The one who endures to the end will be saved. Alleluia.

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Daily Lectionary Readings

SundayJoel 1:1-13; 1 Corinthians 14:1-12; Matthew 20:1-16

MondayJoel 1:15--2:2; Revelation 18:15-24; Luke 14:12-24

Tuesday............Joel 2:3-11; Revelation 19:1-10; Luke 14:25-35

Wednesday....Joel 2:12-19; Revelation 19:11-21; Luke 15:1-10

ThursdayJoel 2:21-27; James 1:1-15; Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

Friday..... Joel 2:28--3:8; James 1:16-27; Luke 16:1-9

Saturday.........Joel 3: 9-17; James 2:1-13; Luke 16:10-17 (18)



The Collect for the Week

Sundays after Pentecost Proper 28 O Lord, by Your bountiful goodness release us from the bonds of our sins, which by reason of our weakness we have brought upon ourselves, that we may stand firm until the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



Catechism Portion for the Week

The Ninth and Tenth Commandments, You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. - The last two Commandments, at least as Lutherans count them, have to do with coveting. In the Ninth Commandments we are warned against coveting our neighbor's physical property, and in the Tenth the warning is against coveting the living beings loyal to, and connected with, our neighbor. We need to learn to be content with the gifts God has given us to sustain our lives. And when we feel lacking in these gifts we are to turn to God in prayer asking him for our daily bread. As but one of many examples in Scripture of how the sin of coveting leads to other sins, consider the account of how King Ahab acquired Naboth's vineyard. You can find the account in 1 Kings 21:1-16. As believers in Christ we learn to live a life of contentment as we give thanks for the daily blessings God provides both for us and for our neighbor. Coveting, that is, the inordinate desire for that which God has not entrusted to us, is a sure indication that we have made an idol out of some object other than God. This brings us full circle back to the First Commandment, namely, You shall have no other gods.



Portion of the Catechism and Luther's Explanation

What is the Ninth Commandment?

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

What is the Tenth Commandment?

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.



Prayer Based on the Portion of the Catechism

Prayer based on the Ninth and Tenth Commandment - Heavenly Father, you open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living creature. Cause us to fear and love you above all things, that our hearts would not covet that which you have given to our neighbors. Rather, lead us to trust in your provision of daily bread, be content with what you provide, and reject every evil scheme or enticement that would secure for ourselves that which you have given to others. Enable us to serve our neighbors by helping them keep and guard all that you have given to them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 119]



Intercessory Prayer

- [⊕] Jenny Whitman (friends of the Benruds paralyzed from a fall)
- Bev Kuehn (regulating medicines and dealing with diabetes)
- Heather Wesner (Jessica Schoonover's sister with breast and stomach cancer)



Hymn of the Week and Next Sunday's Lessons

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word: *stnz 1* Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done. *stnz 2* Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone; Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally. *stnz 3* O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth; Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life. Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

For November 24, 2024, Last Sunday of the Church Year: Christ the King Sunday: Daniel 7:9-10 Daniel's dream of the Ancient of Days on His throne.; Psalm 93 "The Lord reigns;" Revelation 1:4b-8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega."; John 18:33-37 "My kingdom is not of this world."