

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the First Sunday in Advent
November 28 through December 5, 2021*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 135: A Psalm of Praise for Our Creator and Redeemer—Psalm 135 calls us to praise the Lord, our Creator and Redeemer. All who stand in the house of the Lord are to praise the Lord and sing to His name, for it is pleasant. By the name of the Lord, we were baptized and made the children of God. By the name of the Lord, He continues to forgive our sins. And by the name of the Lord, we call upon Him in every trouble. Like the Old Testament Church which was established by the promise of salvation made to the Patriarchs, so the New Testament Church rests her hopes and confidence upon the promises of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus who is both our Creator and our Redeemer. “Our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the Lord pleases He does.” Not only is He the Lord of creation, ordering the cycle of rain, the lightning, and the wind, but He is also the God of salvation who delivered Israel from bondage in Egypt and conquered all her enemies. Psalm 135 leads us in a renunciation of all worthless idols who have no power to create or save. Israel, Aaron, and Levi represent the whole congregation of the Old Testament Church. We, like the Old Testament Church, are called to bless the Lord for there is life and salvation in no other.

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. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Theme: Come and Rescue Us from the Threatening Perils of Our Sins!

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 10:27-28

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.”

Psalm 135 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, Your name is pleasant, for by Your name I am baptized, forgiven all my sin, and given the promise of eternal life. You alone are good. Teach me to sing praises to Your name that others may know the consolation of Your love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	24	122	33	50	18:1-20	102	90	24
Evening	25, 110	40, 67	85, 91	14, 16	126, 62	130, 16	80, 72	25, 110

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Triumphal Entry—Matthew 21:1-9	
Monday	Jesus Teaches Us to Pray in the Sermon on the Mount—Mt. 6:5-15	1 Thess. 5:12-28
Tuesday	Jesus’ High Priestly Prayer—John 17:1-26 St Andrew, Apostle—John 1:35-42a	Hebrews 4:11-16
Wednesday	MIDWEEK: My House Is a House of Prayer—Mark 11:12-26	
Thursday	Watch and Pray—Luke 21:25-36	Colossians 1:3-14
Friday	Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane—Matthew 26:36-45	Philippians 1:3-11
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Malachi 4:1-6	Romans 15:4-13

The Catechism: The Lord’s Prayer—Second Petition and Third Petition

<i>What is the Second Petition?</i> Thy kingdom come.	Preschool +
<i>What does this mean?</i> The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.	First Grade +
<i>How does God’s kingdom come?</i> God’s kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.	Second Grade +
<i>What is the Third Petition?</i> Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.	Preschool +

<p><i>What does this mean?</i> The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.</p>	First Grade +
<p><i>How is God's will done?</i> God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.</p>	Third Grade +

Prayers: Catechism Prayers, In Our Prayers at Peace, and the Collect for the Week

Prayer on the Second Petition of the Lord's Prayer

Heavenly Father, Your kingdom comes to us wherever the Gospel of Jesus is preached and His sacraments are administered. Through these gifts You give us Your Holy Spirit and create faith in our hearts. We give thanks to You for these gifts. We give thanks to You for the promise that Jesus will come again in glory on the Last Day to give us all the fullness of His kingdom. Forgive us for failing to pray for the coming of Your kingdom. By Your Word and Spirit, reign in our hearts and in Your Church. Through the promises of the Gospel, continue to give us Your Holy Spirit, so that by Your grace we believe Your holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and forever after in eternity; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer on the Third Petition of the Lord's Prayer

Heavenly Father, Your good and gracious will is to keep and preserve us in the true faith. Your good and gracious will is done without our prayer and does not depend upon us. For this we give You thanks. Forgive us for not trusting that You promise to preserve us in Christ. Break and hinder every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow Your name or let Your kingdom come. Strengthen and keep us firm in Your Word and faith until we die; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

The Office of the Ministry: The Lord's guidance and blessing upon our calling of an Associate Pastor and Headmaster.

Baptismal Birthdays: Paity Hasz (11/29), RJ Frerking, Aaron Piper (11/30), Kirstin Franklin (12/3), Anne Haga, Kent Franklin (12/4).

Wedding Anniversaries: Jon and Lynn Leider (11/25), Bob and Pat Rothe (11/27), George and Sue Kaminski (12/2).

The Sick: Steve LaSage undergoing testing; Mary Bero, sister of Marty Bruss, recovering from serious eye surgery; Erik Krueger's family recovering from Covid-19; Michelle Pollinger, sister of Jody Ligrow, recovering from pneumonia; Karen Leach, mother of Peggy Lundberg, suffering with spinal compression fractures; Brett Arnold, friends of the Trapps, hospitalized with complication following kidney transplant surgery; Tom Pinzl recovering from surgery; Jeremy LaFore and Luise Bollmeyer in continued care.

Cancer Treatment: Gabby Hartwig (childhood cancer), Aburuyeba Amaso (breast cancer), Jim Nitzsche (lung cancer) recovering at home after specialized cancer treatment; James Loker (liver cancer), Josiah Boehringer (childhood cancer).

Collect for the First Sunday in Advent

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for the Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle (November 30)

Almighty God, by Your grace the apostle Andrew obeyed the call of Your Son to be a disciple. Grant us also to follow the same Lord Jesus Christ in heart and life, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week

"Savior of the Nations, Come" (stanzas 1-3)

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<p>Looking forward to the Second Sunday in Advent</p> <p>Hymns: 334, 337, 336, 355, 333, 348, 331</p> <p>Malachi 4:1-6: The prophet Malachi prophesies concerning the coming of the "Sun of Righteousness" who will bring healing to all who trust in His Word. By His righteousness He delivers His people from the judgment of hell.</p> <p>Romans 15:4-13: The Old Testament Scriptures were written to give us hope through the promises of the Holy Gospel. This hope and encouragement sustain and comfort us in the trials and hardships of life. It is a sure and certain hope.</p> <p>Luke 21:25-36: The signs in the heavens, the distress of nations, and the perplexities upon earth are nothing for the Christian to fear. Although the whole world might be falling apart around us, the Christian takes courage from the Lord's Word because He knows that these are merely the signs leading up to the Lord's coming. The Lord is in complete and total charge and He will not forsake His flock, no matter how difficult the end times might get. The Lord will have "the last laugh" on the last day, for everyone "will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Our response to the signs of tribulation of the end times is to "look up," that is, to anticipate and look forward to the Lord's return all the more. In other words, when we see the signs which cause the world great distress, we are called to be encouraged that the Lord is fulfilling His Word just as He said. "This generation"—the church—"will by no means pass away till all things are fulfilled. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away." That is wonderful comfort for the redeemed of the Lord!</p>	<p>December 5, 2021</p>
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