

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Trinity
November 14 through November 21, 2021*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 133: A Prayer for Fellowship Among the Faithful—It is the Lord alone who establishes fellowship among the baptized faithful. Sharing in common the gift of the Holy Spirit and true faith in Christ in the heart is something that only the Holy Spirit can create through the faithful preaching of God’s Word that is received and believed. Out of the reception of God’s Word, brothers and sisters confess a unity of faith and love which is a miracle of the Holy Spirit. It is this fellowship that Psalm 133 celebrates: “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” Unity and harmony in the faith cannot be established by any human agreement where people “agree to disagree”—such “unity” is a scam. The only unity worth having is the unity that God alone creates in the hearts of His people by the pure and unadulterated Word of God. This unity is compared to the precious oil that anoints the beard of Aaron the High Priest, or to the dew that refreshes Mount Hermon and the mountains of Zion. Out of this unity of the pure Gospel and faith in Christ “there the LORD commanded the blessing—Life forevermore.”

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess 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, Inherit the Kingdom Prepared for You!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 2 Peter 1:21

Prophecy never came by the will of man,
but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 133 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, send forth Your Holy Spirit, we pray, that through the pure teaching of Your holy Word and the faithful administration of the Sacraments of Christ, we may dwell together in the sweet fellowship of the unity of faith and love which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	35	37	40	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56
Evening	36	38	39, 41	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Separating the Sheep from the Goats—Matthew 25:31-46	
Monday	Jehu, the Avenger of Blood—2 Kings 9:1-37	1 Cor. 11:17-34
Tuesday	The Destruction of Ahab’s House & the Prophets of Baal—2 Kgs 10:1-36	1 Cor. 12:1-31
Wednesday	Athaliah and Joash—2 Kings 11:1-21	1 Cor. 13:1-13
Thursday	Joash Repairs the Temple—2 Kings 12:1-16	1 Cor. 14:1-19
Friday	The Death of Elisha—2 Kings 13:10-25	1 Cor. 14:20-40
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Isaiah 65:17-25	1 Thess. 5:1-11

The Catechism: The Lord’s Prayer—Introduction and First Petition

What is the Introduction to the Lord’s Prayer? Our Father who art in heaven.	Preschool +
What does this mean? With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.	First Grade +
What is the First Petition? Hallowed be Thy name.	Preschool +
What does this mean? God’s name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.	Second Grade +

How is God's name kept holy?

God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it.

Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven!

But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us.

Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

Third Grade +

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

Prayer on the Introduction to the Lord's Prayer

Heavenly Father, in Holy Baptism, we became Your dear children, and You became our dear Father. You have given us every gift of salvation through Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, and for Jesus' sake have made to us many great and precious promises. We thank You for the gift of forgiveness, for clothing us with the righteousness of Christ, and for making us joint heirs with Your Son of eternal life. Forgive us for doubting Your tender love for us and for not trusting that we are Your dear children in Jesus. Give us confidence in Your Word, boldness to call upon You in prayer for all our needs, and the joy of being Your dearly loved and forgiven children, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer on the First Petition of the Lord's Prayer

Heavenly Father, You hallow Your name among us when Your Word is taught in its truth and purity and when we, as Your dear children, also lead holy lives according to it. We give thanks to You for the gift of Your Word; for our pastors, parents, and others who teach it; and for the holy lives of all Your faithful Christians who live according to it. Forgive us for the many ways in which we profane Your holy name among us by failing to teach Your Word in its truth and purity, to pray for our pastors and teachers, or to lead holy lives. Protect us from false doctrine and evil living. Help all who are called to teach and preach Your Word to do so with faithfulness, and grant us to receive Your Word rightly that our lives may be made holy by it; 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.

Births: Hazel Elizabeth Gierach (11/11) daughter of Hannah & Keith Gierach

Baptismal Birthdays: Mark Goltermann (11/18), Jim Weber (11/19).

The Sick: Luke Voss hospitalized with mastoiditis; Karen Leach, mother of Peggy Lundberg, suffering with spinal compression fractures; Brett Arnold, friends of the Trapps, hospitalized with complication following kidney transplant surgery; Michelle Pollinger, sister of Jody Ligrow, hospitalized with covid pneumonia; Tom Pinzl undergoing further surgery for a blocked kidney and hernia; Jeremy LaFore, and Luise Bollmeyer in continued care.

Cancer treatment: Gabby Hartwig (childhood cancer), Aburuyeba Amaso (breast cancer), Jim Nitzsche (lung cancer), James Loker (liver cancer), Josiah Boehringer (childhood cancer) nephew of Beth Boehringer.

Collect for the Twenty Sixth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of the end of all things and the day of Your just judgement, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You forever hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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

"Our Father, Who from Heaven Above" (stanzas 1-5)

766

Looking forward to the Twenty-sixth Sunday after Trinity

November 14, 2021

Hymns: 822, 516, 337, 514, 674, 515

Isaiah 65:17-25: We are so attached to the things of this world, that the promise of the prophet—that the former things of this world shall not be remembered—may not at first offer comfort. Yet, for the Christian whose hope is in Christ, we long to be rid of the corruption of sin and the devil's temptations that so often entangle us. These are the "former things" that shall not be remembered. In addition, the prophet paints the picture that the new heavens and the new earth will be a life that is lived entirely from the love of God in Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11: "Waking" and "sleeping" are synonyms for "faith" and "mistrust." To be "awake" and watchful for the Lord's coming, is to live in eager anticipation of the consummation of our salvation through the hearing of His Word, the receiving of the Sacrament, contrition and repentance, and the life of prayer. To be asleep is to turn away from these things to find one's comfort and happiness in what is passing away.

Matthew 25:1-13: Faith in Christ alone makes one wise to salvation. Foolish is the one who casts aside the Gospel of Christ. The parable of the wise and foolish virgins is a parable about faith and unbelief. To believe in Christ is to love Him and long for His coming again in glory, like a faithful bride and her bridesmaids who await the coming of the Bridegroom. Those who do not believe in Christ have no particular yearning or anticipation for the Bridegroom's coming. We go to the Sacrament each week, confessing our sins that we might "learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins, ... so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved." (Small Catechism) To "watch, [that is] pray" is to cry out to our Bridegroom, as His faithful bride, according to the loving promises of His Gospel and the gracious Words of His testament: "take eat, this is My body ... drink of it all of you, this is My blood."