

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Twenty-sixth Sunday after Trinity  
November 13 through November 20, 2022

**Catechesis Notes for the Week —God’s Promise to Abraham Is Fulfilled in the Cross—**At the heart of God’s promise to Abraham is the suffering and death of Jesus, the ultimate Son of the Promise, who by His death would destroy death and bring forth the resurrection of the body to eternal life. In the **Sacrifice of Isaac, Abraham’s Faith Is Revealed**. The event in which the Lord calls Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, the son whom he loved, we see a picture of how God the Father would offer up His only begotten Son to the death of the cross. The call to sacrifice Abraham was not a test of the strength of Abraham’s faith, but “a test” that revealed that, by the grace of God, Abraham knew that even if Isaac was put to death, he would rise again because of God’s promise. We learn that this was Abraham’s faith in the words of Hebrews 11:17-19, “By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, ‘In Isaac your seed shall be called,’ accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.” Additional Gospel themes are also seen in this narrative, as a ram is caught in a thicket to be the substitute sacrifice in place of Isaac. In the same way, Jesus becomes our substitute in His death upon the cross. The stories of the patriarchs continue to unfold throughout the week in **Abraham Sends for a Bride for Isaac**. Abraham was concerned more than anything else that Isaac’s bride would share Isaac’s faith in the promise. **Rebekah** is a gift of God who would be Isaac’s helpmeet. In the account of **Jacob and Esau**, when **Esau Sells His Birthright**, we not only see in Esau one who made light of the promise of salvation, but in Jacob (who received the promise) that pattern of yet another man who did not deserve it. Jacob was chosen as the second born son of Isaac, not because of his standing in the family or because he had no sin, but because of God’s grace alone. In the story of **Isaac and Abimelech**, we see the same patterns of fear and deception that we saw with Abraham and Sarah, but we again see God’s faithfulness to them as His chosen ones.

## 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, 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: 1 John 3:2

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

#### Psalm 119:145-160 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

**Prayer on the Psalm:** O Lord Jesus, apart from You and Your Word we have no life or salvation. Strengthen our faith in Your precious promises that we might call upon You every morning for all that we need to support us in this body and life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	26, 27	30	32	33	35	37	40	42, 43
Evening	25	28, 29	31	34	36	38	39, 41	44

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>Trinity 26:</b> The Sheep and the Goats—Matthew 25:31-46	
Monday	Sacrifice of Isaac—Abraham’s Faith Is Revealed—Gen. 22:1-19	Hebrews 11:17-22
Tuesday	Abraham Sends for a Bride for Isaac—Genesis 24:1-28	2 Corinthians 6:11-18
Wednesday	Rebekah—Gen. 24:29 (30-31) 32-38 (39-41) 42-49 (50-57) 58-67	Colossians 3:11-24
Thursday	Jacob and Esau—Esau Sells His Birthright—Genesis 25:19-34	Romans 9:1-16
Friday	Isaac and Abimelech—Genesis 26:1-11	Ephesians 5:15-33
Saturday	Trinity 27: The New Creation—Isaiah 65:17-25	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

What is the Introduction to the Lord’s Prayer? <b>Our Father who art in heaven.</b>	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? <b>Hallowed be Thy name.</b>	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 (include the petitions below followed by the Lord's Prayer)**

**Baptismal Anniversaries:** Isaac Alvarez, Reese DiPuma, Hailee DiPuma (11/13), Angela Greschner (11/14), Mark Goltermann (11/18), Jim Weber (11/19).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Tim and Cheryl Fischer (11/18).

**The Sick:** David Berger recovering from heart valve replacement surgery; Peyton (4 y/o son of Rev. & Mrs. David Locklair) receiving chemotherapy for retinoblastoma; Jamilyn Martin (friend of Megan Braunschweig) receiving treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma; Kathy Miller, Heather Peters, and Josiah Boehringer in cancer treatment.

**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**

**"Crown Him with Many Crowns" (stanzas 1 and 2)**

**525**

**Looking forward to the Last Sunday of the Church Year**

**November 20, 2022**

**Hymns: 515, 516, 514, 636, 348**

**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."