

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

October 12 through October 19, 2025

Catechesis Notes for Week—The First Article of the Creed — “All that I am and all that I have comes from God. Apart from Him I am and have nothing.” These assertions are central to the Christian teaching concerning God. They declare that we, and all of creation, are completely dependent upon Him. Even when we abuse the life and gifts that He has given, we do so by His power in us. This is what makes such evil all the more blasphemous! Martin Luther’s Creedal Hymn confesses both our dependence upon God and His love for us that motivates Him to create, provide, protect, and defend us. “We all believe in one true God, who created earth and heaven. The Father who to us in love has the right of children given. He in soul and body feeds us; All we need His hand provides us; Through all snares and perils leads us, Watching that no harm betide us. He cares for us by day and night; All things are governed by His might.” The Catechism helps us to understand that what He has made and given is ALWAYS good, even if our sinful human reason might not think so and might even rebel against such gifts. There is great freedom in the gift of faith that accepts the truths of the First Article. All Christians—the deaf, the blind, and the lame—still confess that God has made them, including their “eyes, ears, and all their members,” even if they don’t work the way they want them to work. God’s created gifts are given AS THEY ARE, that we might learn to trust in Him through these gifts, extolling Him alone as God and relying upon His grace in our weakness.

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: Jesus Is the Lord and Source of Sabbath Rest!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

Psalms 2 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on Psalm 2: O Lord, we give thanks to You that You laugh at Your enemies and have promised to judge all those who persecute Your Son and His Church. Forgive us for doubting Your gracious care of the Church. Teach us to believe that, through the Church’s suffering for Jesus’ sake, we bear witness to Him. Give us confident faith to laugh at the enemies of the Gospel and to entrust the Church’s preservation to Your sure and certain promises; through Jesus Christ, 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	89	91	92	95, 96	98, 100	101	103	105
Evening	90	93	94	97	99	102	104	106

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Trinity 17: Man with Dropsy Healed—Luke 14:1-11	
Monday	The Fall of Man into Sin—Genesis 3:1-8	John 1:35-42
Tuesday	The First Promise of Salvation—Genesis 3:8-15	John 1:43-51
Wednesday	The Curse of the Fall—Genesis 3:16-24	John 2:1-12
Thursday	Cain Murders Abel; the Birth of Seth—Gen. 4:1-18 (19-24) 25-26	John 2:13-25
Friday	Day of Supplication and Prayer—1 John 1:5—2:2	Matthew 6:16-21
Saturday	St. Luke, Evangelist: Luke 10:1-9	2 Timothy 4:5-18

Catechism: The Creed—First Article

What is the First Article of the Creed?

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

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures;
that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members,
my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes,

food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have.

Preschool +

First Grade +

He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.
He defends me against all danger
and guards and protects me from all evil.
All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy,
without any merit or worthiness in me.
For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.
This is most certainly true.

Second Grade +

Prayers: Collect for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, and In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for the Day of Supplication and Prayer

Almighty God, whose compassion never fails and who invites us to call upon You in prayer, hear the heartfelt confession of our sins and receive our humble supplication for Your mercy. Spare us from the just punishment of sin, which our Lord Jesus Christ has borne for us, and enable us to serve You in holiness and purity of life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for St. Luke, Evangelist

Almighty God, our Father, Your blessed Son called Luke the physician to be an evangelist and physician of the soul. Grant that the healing medicine of the Gospel and the Sacraments may put to flight the diseases of our souls that with willing hearts we may ever love and serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer — LSB p. 294ff.

In Our Prayers this Week — “Let us pray for...”

Baptismal anniversaries: Kali Welch (10/12)

Birth: Infant son born to John and Emily Franklin.

Christian Congregations under threats of violence: Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Columbus, Ohio, and others.

The sick: Bob Corso, recovering from an aortic valve replacement; Melissa Brendel recovering from surgery; Carol David in rehab; Chuck and Jan Finke, Dorothee Behling, and Jon Bruss recovering from accidents; Chrissy Artru (friend of the Duesslers), undergoing treatment for kidney transplant rejection.

In cancer treatment: Loretta Lampen, Ivy Kunkel, Tracy Espinosa, Laurie Roe, Ken Hinckle, Gary Luderman, Diane Bulawa, Rev. Luke Boehringer.

Those who mourn: The family of Joseph Sands (father of Samantha Bender).

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

Hymn of the Week

“We All Believe in One True God”

954

Looking forward to The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

October 19, 2025

Hymns: 954, 694, 581, 579, 704, 794

Deuteronomy 10:12-21: Moses teaches the children of Israel that the essence of the Law is fulfilled in love. This love for God above all else always results in a compassion and care for others ahead of oneself. As the Lord rescued, saved, and showed mercy to the Israelites in their redemption from slavery in Egypt, so they were to show the Lord's love and mercy to the stranger in the land.

I Corinthians 1:1-9: Paul's greeting of the congregation at Corinth encourages them to rely upon the grace of God which shall provide for all their needs as a congregation. He confirms us in the faith, and He is faithful to us in the call of the Gospel that has brought us into fellowship with Christ, our Lord.

Matthew 22:34-46: Jesus was confronted by many who did not believe in Him. In this Gospel, the Pharisees, who had heard He had silenced the Sadducees, took their turn to challenge Jesus about the Old Testament teaching on the Law. They asked Him, “What is the great commandment in the law?” Jesus' answers reveal that, according to the Old Testament, love for God above all things is the greatest commandment and that love for the neighbor as oneself follows love for God. The Pharisees knew that Jesus answered correctly, but for them following God's law was about manipulating God into doing for them what they desired, rather than understanding that the law calls for a love for God and for the neighbor that we cannot fulfill. The Old Testament law and prophets hang on these two commandments because Jesus, the Son of God, and the Son of David, is the fulfillment of the law of love in his sacrifice for us upon the cross. His love for God and the neighbor does not move Him to look out for Himself but to serve us. By His service He shows Himself to be the greater Son of David and the promised Messiah. Because of Jesus' love for the Father and for us, the Father will place all enemies under Jesus' feet, and He will sit forever at the Father's right hand. For the Pharisees, the Law of God was about achieving what they wanted. For Jesus, God's Law was fulfilled in His self-denial for us.