

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

October 19 through October 26, 2025

Catechesis Notes for Week— The Second Article of the Creed—Redemption is the theme of the Second Article. It is a word that indicates that we have been “purchased and won” by Christ from Satan who had been our lord and taskmaster. Satan held sinful man and each one of us in his clutches. His power over us was the Law through sin. Because of our sinful rebellion he was able to lay claim to us and hold us under the Law’s condemnation. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, the condemnation of hell, and the power of Satan, by becoming a curse for us under the Law and pouring out His life-blood into death for us. This is how He, as the Seed of the Woman, would “bruise” or “crush” the devil’s headship and authority over man, according to the first promise of the Gospel in Genesis 3:15. “I will put enmity between you [Satan] and the woman, and between your seed [Satan] and her Seed; He [the woman’s Seed, our Lord Jesus Christ, who was born of the Virgin Mary] shall bruise your head [Satan’s power to condemn us] and you [Satan] shall bruise His heel. Christ was “bruised” upon the cross as He trampled Satan underfoot through His suffering and death. Now we have freedom from Satan’s tyranny through faith in Christ. This week’s Bible verse teaches us the wonderful doctrine of the incarnation of the Son of God—the eternal Word of the Father. “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” Christ’s glory is beheld in His willingness to “tabernacle among us” in human flesh, just like ours, and to suffer on our behalf for our salvation.

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 Fulfillment of the Old Testament

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 1:14

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Psalms 34:8-22 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on Psalm 34: O Lord, there is no want to those whose faith and hope is in You. Grant us daily to praise Your holy name, to call upon You for all our needs, and to taste of Your divine goodness in the Gospel and Sacraments that we may learn to believe that those who have a broken heart and a contrite spirit shall be saved, and that no one who trusts in You shall be condemned; 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	105	107	109	112, 113	115	117, 118	119:1-24	119:49-72
Evening	106	108	110, 111	114	116	120, 121	119:25-48	119:73-88

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Trinity 18: The Greatest Commandment—Matthew 22:34-46	
Monday	The Flood—Wickedness of Man; God’s Judgment—Gen. 6:5-22	John 3:1-8
Tuesday	The Flood—Rain for Forty Days and Forty Nights—Gen. 7:1-24	John 3:9-15
Wednesday	The Flood—The Lord Remembers Noah—Genesis 8:1-22	John 3:16-21
Thursday	St. James of Jerusalem—Acts 15:12-22a	Matthew 13:54-58
Friday	The Flood—The Promise of the Rainbow—Gen. 9:1-17 (18-29)	John 3:22-30
Saturday	Reformation: Revelation 14:6-7	Romans 3:19-28

Catechism: The Creed—Second Article

What is the Second Article of the Creed?	Preschool +
And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord...	
<i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,	First Grade +

That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom
and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,
Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.
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 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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 St. James of Jerusalem

Heavenly Father, shepherd of Your people, You raised up James the Just, brother of our Lord, to lead and guide Your Church. Grant that we may follow his example of prayer and reconciliation and be strengthened by the witness of his death; 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

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

In Our Prayers this Week — "Let us pray for..."

Baptismal anniversaries: Andrew Ruehle (10/20); Kathy May, Brian Brendel, (10/23); Robert Haga (10/24), Joanne LaSage, Lindsey Weber, and Chuck Finke, (10/25)

Wedding anniversaries: Michael and Angela Christopherson (10/18)

The sick: Steve LaSage recovering after a heart attack, Kevin Kehres, awaiting hip replacement surgery, Bob Corso, recovering at home from an aortic valve replacement; Melissa Brendel recovering from surgery; Chuck and Jan Fink and Dorothee Behling recovering from accidents; Chrissy Artru (friend of the Duesslers), undergoing treatment for kidney transplant rejection; Richard Leach (Peggy Lundberg's father) hospitalized with an infection.

In cancer treatment: Loretta Lampen, Ivy Kunkel, Tracy Espinosa, receiving a bone marrow transplant this week, Laurie Roe, Ken Hinckle, Gary Luderman, Diane Bulawa, Rev. Luke Boehringer

Those in hospice care: Clara Garbisch (Pastor Bender's 103-year-old stepmother)

Those who mourn: The family and friends of Hope Blueberry (friend of the Steinhilbs) who died suddenly at age 40.

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

Hymn of the Week

"I Know My Faith Is Founded" (Stanzas 1-2)

587

Looking forward to Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025

Hymns: 587, 585, 942, 947, 656, 961, 962, 556, 658, 617, 655

Revelation 14:6-7: The first reading for Reformation was chosen because the Lord brought forth the clear preaching of the Gospel of God's free grace and mercy in Christ Jesus. Luther is like an angel "flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting Gospel to preach" for the joy and edifying of all Christ's holy people.

Romans 3:19-28: What is "the righteousness of God apart from the Law"? It is the offering of Christ by the Father into the death of the cross for us. The sinless One willingly became the sin bearer and poured out His lifeblood under the curse of the Law in order to propitiate (take away and satisfy) God's wrath. For Jesus' sake, God the Father justifies (declares righteous) all whose faith is in Christ. We are justified by grace as a free gift of God in Christ Jesus. What we could not accomplish by the Law because of our sin, Christ accomplished for us in the shedding of His blood on our behalf.

Matthew 11:12-19: The Kingdom of heaven has been coming into the world violently. Wherever the Gospel is preached and sinners are being brought into the Kingdom of God through faith in Christ, there is the violence. The Old Adam dies, sinners are claimed from the kingdom of darkness, and Satan becomes agitated by it all. Wherever the Gospel is preached and repentance is wrought in sinners, Satan will be close at hand to stir up trouble and agitate against the Christian faith and the claims of the Gospel. Christians should be taught to expect such upheaval from within and without. As it was in the days of John the Baptist when multitudes were being brought to faith, so it was in Luther's day, and so it will be in our own day.