

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2026, through November 1, 2026*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — During the next two weeks we celebrate the **Reformation and All Saints' Day**. These two feasts appropriately go together. Reformation celebrates the recovery of the Gospel, that sinners are justified (declared righteous) by grace alone, through faith, for Christ's sake. This justification is what makes all saints "saints." They are clothed with the righteousness of Christ. This is the teaching of the epistle for Reformation: "But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God...Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the Law." The Gospel for Reformation continues this theme in the words of Jesus: "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). The Word of Jesus calls us to repentance and declares us righteous on account of what He has done for us in His death upon the cross. The righteousness of Christ—the forgiveness of all our sins—is received by faith alone and sets us free from punishment and the judgment of the Law to live in the joyous freedom that only Christ's forgiving Word can give us.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

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

Theme: Jesus Fulfills the Holiness Demanded by the Law

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:21

[God] made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us,
that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Psalms 1 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Psalms Prayer: Lord God, heavenly Father forgive us for walking in the teachings of the ungodly, for standing in the path of sinners, or for sitting with those who scoff at Your Word. Teach us to delight in Your Word and to meditate upon it day and night, so that we might be like a strong tree that is planted by the streams of living water. Grant that through faith in Your Son, the righteousness of Christ the Blessed Man might be ours; through the same 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	32	33	35	37	40	42, 43	45	48, 49
Evening	31	34	36	38	39, 41	44	46, 47	50

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Great Commandment of the Law—Matthew 22:34-46	
Monday	Moses Dies on Mount Nebo—Deuteronomy 32:48-52; 34:1-12	Gal. 3:26—4:7
Tuesday	Joshua Takes Moses' Place & Prepares to Cross the Jordan—Josh 1:1-18	Galatians 4:8-20
Wednesday	St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles—John 15:17-21	1 Peter 1:3-9
Thursday	Rahab the Harlot Hides the Spies—Joshua 2:1-24	Galatians 4:21-31
Friday	Israel Crosses over the Jordan—Joshua 3:1-17	Galatians 5:1-6
Saturday	Reformation—John 8:31-36	Romans 3:19-28a

The Catechism: The Creed—Second Article

<i>What is the Second Article of the Creed?</i> And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord...	Preschool +
<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: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, and In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

O God, You have commanded us to love You above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. Grant us the Spirit to think and do what is pleasing in Your sight, that our faith in You may never waver and our love for one another may not falter; 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. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles

Almighty God, You chose Your servants Simon and Jude to be numbered among the glorious company of the apostles. As they were faithful and zealous in their mission, so may we with ardent devotion make known the love and mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for Reformation Day

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies of Your Word, and grant to Your Church Militant Your saving peace; 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 — “Let us pray...”

Sunday: For the joy of the resurrection among us
Monday: For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work
Tuesday: For deliverance against temptation and evil and those struggling with besetting sins
Wednesday: For marriage and family
Thursday: For the Church and her pastors; and for fruitful and salutary use of the Lord's Supper
Friday: For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the persecuted and oppressed
Saturday: For the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away from Christ

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

Baptismal anniversaries: Chuck Finke, Delaney DiPuma, Joanne LaSage, Lindsey Weber (10/25); Lydia Schneider (10/30), Tim Gierach (10/31).

Wedding anniversaries: Jeffrey and Lindsey Kenyon, Joshua and Bethany Franklin (10/26); Larry and Sharon Martin, Matthew and Sarah Damato (10/28).

The sick: Mark Goltermann undergoing hernia surgery on Thursday; Tommy Lueck (Steve Lueck's cousin) making progress with treatment; Rueben Roe recovering from knee-replacement surgery; John Lehman continuing his long recovery from back surgery.

In cancer treatment: Kevin Riemer diagnosed with cancer and recovering from surgery; Terry O'Neill, Heide Schaff, and Ron Schaefer recovering from surgery; Barbara Galis (Nick Galis' grandmother),

Bob Rothe, Michael Piper (Bob Piper's brother), Michael Gehl (friend of the Bruss family), Mary O'Flyng (acquaintance of the Rothe family), Loretta Lampen, Tracy Espinosa, Ken Hinckle, Diane Bulawa, and Rev. Luke Boehringer.

Those who mourn: The family and friends of Carol David, Pete Greschner, Jodi Winn (Sharon Murphy's niece), Art Klausmeier (Mark Goltermann's cousin).

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

Hymn of the Week

“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” (Stanzas 1-5)

556

Looking forward to All Saints Day

November 1, 2026

Hymns: 940, 677, 679, 639, 679, 671

Revelation 7:9-17: John sees a vision of heaven. On the last day, believers of every tribe and nation will be gathered before the throne of the Lamb. They will have had their sin washed clean by the blood of the Lamb. They will be clothed with the righteousness of Christ, and they will forever sing the praises of Him who is their salvation and who has wiped away all tears from their eyes.

1 John 3:1-3: The Apostle John points us forward to the hope of the resurrection when we will be like Christ Jesus in His glory. We now walk by faith in the promises of salvation and the resurrection of the body. We live in the sure and certain hope and confidence that we shall rise from the dead to an immortal life that is the very life of Christ Himself. “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.”

Matthew 5:1-12: The One greater than Moses calls His disciples out of the multitudes and opens His mouth to give them the Word of God by which they are made alive. Jesus preaches about the reality of Baptism in which we are joined to Christ so that what is true of Him is now true of us. Truly, the eight Beatitudes describe Christ, but the plural is used because God the Father now declares this about all who are baptized into the name of the Blessed Trinity. Eight represents those of the new creation who possess the kingdom of heaven just as the eight were spared from the Flood in the ark. Each Beatitude looks back to events from the history of Israel, but also anticipates other parts of Matthew's Gospel. The life of the baptized is to be that of sorrow and joy, persecution and reward, death and resurrection. So closely are we joined to Christ in Baptism that these things of His experience become ours also. This is to be immediately understood of the work of the apostles themselves as they preach the content of the Beatitudes, that is, Christ. If they preach the Beatitudes as Law, the world will readily accept their preaching for the world sees these as admirable guides for behavior. It is only when they dare to proclaim the Gospel of the meek and merciful Peacemaker that they will be rejected and persecuted. But it is in this meek and merciful Peacemaker, our Lord Jesus Christ, that we have the joy and freedom of the Gospel. The promises of the Beatitudes become a source of comfort for us as Christians who believe in Jesus and who bear in our own bodies and lives the very life of Christ our Savior.