

Who is the greatest? This question always presupposes that we have great accomplishments to claim as our own. But as James points out, our very ambition to be considered great fills our lives with evil. It also distracts us from the one who is truly great – the sinless Son of God. Notice how quickly the Disciples starting discussing “who is the greatest?” after Jesus told them about His coming crucifixion. That is the depth of our selfish ambition. The good news is Jesus still went to the cross even after such a display of naked ambition. And His selfless act changed the hearts of His disciples, just as it now changes ours. [Jer. 11:18-20; Jam 3:13-4:10; Mark 9:30-37]

The Order of Meditation and Prayer for Daily Use

(Pray and confess out loud as much of the Order of Meditation as possible)

Theme: Who is the Greatest?

Invocation (*Speak aloud and Make the sign of the cross to remember your baptism*)

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

Apostle’s Creed

Learn By Heart Verse

Romans 13: 10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

The Catechism:

Seventh Commandment: <i>You shall not steal.</i>	Pre K +
What does this mean? <i>We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.</i>	Second Grade +
Eighth Commandment <i>You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.</i>	Pre K +
What does this mean? <i>We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.</i>	Second Grade +

Daily Themes for Prayer: Third Sunday of the month

Sunday: Pray for those are prevented from gathering for worship: those who live in areas where persecution is strong; those who do not have a Christian church nearby; those who are homebound; those whose work keeps them away from worship.

Monday: Pray for the salvation and well-being of your neighbors; for our Lutheran schools, colleges, and seminaries; for those who serve as teachers, healthcare workers, police and firefighters; for good government and for peace.

- Tuesday: Pray for your personal life of faith: that you would continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus, that the fruit of the Spirit would be evident in your life and relationships, that your attitudes, your reactions, and your choices would reflect your faith in Christ.
- Wed: Pray for the mission of our congregation: to bring people hope, healing and new life through Jesus Christ. Pray about practical ways for you personally to join Jesus in His mission.
- Thursday: Pray for your pastors. Pray for protection for them from the attacks of the enemy. Pray for their influence for Christ in the congregation and in the community. Pray that they are able to finish strong and remain faithful to the end.
- Friday: Pray for the ministry of Lutheran Church Charities: for their comfort dog ministry; for their Lutheran Emergency Response Teams (LERT) that deploy when disasters happen here and around the country.
- Saturday: Pray for the witness of you and your family to those God brings across your path. Pray for eyes to see the opportunities the Lord gives you to talk to others about Jesus or to serve them in His name.

Lord's Prayer

Going with God's Blessing: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Looking Ahead

Num. 11:4–29

James 5:7-12

Mark 9:38–50