

Congregation in Prayer Dec 20, 2015

When the angel told Mary that she was pregnant with the Christ Child, he also told her that her cousin Elizabeth was also pregnant. She journeyed to see her cousin. As Mary came to visit Elizabeth, as she approached her, the babe in Elizabeth's womb jumped for joy! Mary, caught up in the moment sang out a song of praise which we know as The Magnificat. Today we consider the words of this song of praise. [Micah 5:2-5a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-56]

The Order of Meditation and Prayer for Daily Use

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

Theme for the Week: Thanksgiving and Prayer

Invocation (Spoken while making the sign of the cross to remember your baptism)
In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostle's Creed

Learn by Heart Verse (Practice saying this verse word for word, out loud, throughout the day)

John 15:7 (ESV) If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

Fourth Petition <i>Give us this day our daily bread</i>	Pre-K+
What does this mean? <i>God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.</i>	Second Grade+
What is meant by daily bread? <i>Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.</i>	Fifth Grade +

Daily Readings

Monday	The Visitation - Luke 1:39-45 (46-56)
Tuesday	The Lord's Chosen Servant – Isa 42:1-25
Wednesday	Israel's Only Savior – Isa 43:1-24
Thursday	The Nativity of Our Lord - Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)
Friday	The Word Became Flesh - John 1:1-14 (15-18)
Saturday	Looking Ahead

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 (Take a look at the readings for next Sunday)

Ex 13:1-3a, 11-15

Col 3:12-17

Luke 2:22-40