

Congregation in Prayer Feb 21, 2016

Throughout the weekends in Lent we are taking a look at the greatest story ever told – the account of the birth, life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This week we begin with the birth accounts of the Savior. His birth had been predicted for years by the prophets; now it would become a reality, a historical fact. Jesus was born, the son of Joseph and Mary. He was the Messiah God had promised so long ago. [Mt 1:18-25; Lk 2: 1-20]

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: The Greatest Story Ever Told
The STORY begins in history

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)

2 Timothy 3:16 (ESV) All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

What is the Sacrament of the Altar? <i>It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.</i>	First Grade +
Where is this written? <i>The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." <i>In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."</i></i>	Fifth Grade +

Daily Bible Readings

Monday: Mt 2:1-12 visit of the magi
Tuesday: Mt 2:13-23 to Egypt and back
Wednesday: Mt 4:1-11 Jesus is tempted in the wilderness
Thursday: Mt 4:12-25 Jesus ministry begins
Friday: Mk 1:29-39 Jesus heals many, goes off to pray
Saturday: looking ahead

Daily Themes for Prayer:

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)

Jn 2:1-11 The first miracle of Jesus
Jn 4:43-54 Jesus 2nd miracle