

Congregation in Prayer February 5, 2017

It is good for us to do things that benefit our neighbor. It is the essence of the Law. As Jesus says the second greatest commandment is “to love your neighbor” Yet, because of our sinful natures and the deception of Satan, our good works can go astray. Thankfully, Satan and our sinful nature’s playbook is pretty straightforward. Even better, there is one who fulfilled the Law. [Isaiah 58:1-9; 1 Cor 2:1-16; Mt 5:13-20]

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: When Good Works Go Bad

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)
Psalm 51:1–2 (ESV) Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me
thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

What is Confession? Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.	First Grade +
What sins should we confess? Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord’s Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts. Which are these? Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or	Third Grade +

deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?	
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Daily Bible Readings

Monday	The Transfiguration of Our Lord—Matthew 17:1-9
Tuesday	Joseph’s Cup Is Found in Benjamin’s Sack—Genesis 44:1-17
Wednesday	Judah Intercedes for Benjamin Before Joseph—Genesis 44:18–45:3
Thursday	Joseph Forgives His Brothers—Genesis 45:4-28
Friday	Jacob Journeys to Egypt to See Joseph—Genesis 46:1-27
Weekend	Looking Ahead L

Daily Themes for Prayer:

Sunday: Pray that lives are being transformed through Word and Sacrament ministry here at Our Savior congregation. Pray for those with special needs in your family and in our congregation.

Monday: Pray for prisoners incarcerated in our community, that they would come to know Christ and have their lives transformed. Pray for their families, especially for their children.

Tuesday: Pray for those who have lost hope because of dysfunction in their lives or those around them.

Wed: Pray for those in your extended family; for marriages, for families to live in Christ’s love and forgiveness with each other, for any special concerns with in your own family.

Thursday: Pray for our sister congregations in our circuit. Pray for their pastors. Pray for our District and Synod and their leaders.

Friday: Pray for those who are suffering because of health or because of their faith. Pray that the Lord will sustain them in their hour of need.

Saturday: Pray for society’s castoffs: runaways, street people, prostitutes, the mentally ill, victims of human trafficking that they might have their lives restored to them. Pray for the healing that they will need to return to a healthy and productive existence.

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)

Old Testament Deuteronomy 30:15–20
 Psalm Psalm 119:1–8
 Epistle 1 Corinthians 3:1–9
 Gospel Matthew 5:21–37