

Congregation in Prayer Oct 1, 2017

For the Word of God is the sanctuary above all sanctuaries, yea, the only one which we Christians know and have. For though we had the bones of all the saints or all holy and consecrated garments upon a heap, still that would help us nothing; for all that is a dead thing which can sanctify nobody. But God's Word is the treasure which sanctifies everything, and by which even all the saints themselves were sanctified. At whatever hour, then, God's Word is taught, preached, heard, read or meditated upon, there the person, day, and work are sanctified thereby, not because of the external work, but because of the Word, which makes saints of us all. Therefore, I constantly say that all our life and work must be ordered according to God's Word, if it is to be God-pleasing or holy. Large Catechism – Third Commandment

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: Torn between living or dying

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)

Romans 6:23 (ESV) For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

<p>The Close of the Commandments</p> <p>What does God say about all these commandments?</p> <p>He says, “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” (Ex. 20: 5–6)</p>	<p>Kindergarten +</p>
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.</p>	<p>Third Grade +</p>

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday	The way of the righteous – Psalm 1
Monday	Aaron and Miriam Speak Against Moses—Numbers 12:1-16
Tuesday	Spies Are Sent into Canaan—Numbers 13:1-3 (4-16) 17-33

Wednesday	Israel Refuses to Enter Canaan; Moses Intercedes—Num.14:1-24
Thursday	The Rebels Are Sentenced to Death—Numbers 14:26-45
Friday	Rebellion Against Moses and Aaron—Numbers 16:1-19a
Saturday	Looking Ahead

Daily Themes for Prayer:

Sunday: Gracious Lord, in your compassion you seek not the death of the sinner but their repentance. Cause us to see with your eyes and heart so that we may have compassion for our neighbor – to feed them when they are hungry, to clothe them when they are cold, to speak the Law in love, and to console with the Gospel.

Monday: Holy Father, as Solomon asked for wisdom, we too ask that you make us wise so that we may see the Holy Spirit at work in our community and follow where he leads and to love our neighbor as you have called us.

Tuesday: Almighty Lord, You have called your people at Our Savior to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths we have not yet trod, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us.

Wednesday: Gracious Lord Jesus, help us to abide in You and in Your Word, so that by the power of the Spirit at work in us, we may bear fruit for You – the fruit of the Spirit in our lives and a fruitful witness to those we impact through our Words of witness and our compassionate acts of service to our neighbor.

Thursday: Lord Jesus, as You spent time in this world of ours preaching, teaching and healing, so help us to spend time with the people around us bringing them hope, healing and new life in Your name. As we speak with them and as we serve them in Your name, may they come to know You and Your grace in their lives.

Friday: Forgive us, Lord, for the times that we have had good intentions about sharing the Good News with others but have failed miserably because we were more focused on ourselves and our own needs and desires. Forgive us for the times that our efforts to reach others with the Gospel have been more about us than about them.

Saturday: Lord Jesus, You came into our world, not to condemn us, but to save us. You became flesh and blood so that we could see just how much God loves us. Help us to be “flesh and blood” examples of God’s love in our neighborhoods to the people who do not yet know You that they may come to know Your love and mercy.

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)

Is. 5:1–7

Phil. 3:4b–14

Matt. 21:33–46