

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the First Sunday in Advent  
November 29, 2020 through December 6, 2020*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week—The Beginning of the Church Year**—Advent is a season of repentance and hope. It is a time of self-reflection that is similar to Lent. As we struggle through the difficulties of life and the weaknesses of our own fallen nature, we are reminded of our need for the coming of Christ. Advent is the season of “comings” as is the meaning of the word itself. He came in the incarnation and was born of the Virgin Mary to be our Savior. He will come again in glory to release us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven. But He also comes to us now, right where we live with all of our struggles and hardships, through the preached Word and Sacrament. It is this Word that is the power of God for our salvation and for the living of our lives in a fallen world. We are taught during Advent to live by the sufficiency of this Word of Promise—the Gospel of Christ—that is so powerful that it is able to give us the gift of salvation and to rescue us from every attack upon our faith. It is the Word of Promise in the Gospel that gave our forefathers in the faith hope when there was nothing else to depend upon. And it is the same Word of Promise in the Gospel that gives us hope—hope that is NOT simply wishful thinking for a better tomorrow but a living and vibrant faith that is anchored in the certainty of what Christ has accomplished for us in His death and resurrection.

## The Order of Meditation and Prayer

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

### Invocation

**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### Apostles’ Creed

#### Verse of the week: Romans 10:17

**“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”**

#### Psalm 80 and/or the appointed daily psalms as listed below

*Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	24	122	33	50	18:1-20	102	90	24,
Evening	25; 110	40; 67	85;91	14; 16	126; 62	130; 16	80; 72	25, 110

#### The Catechism: The Lord’s Prayer and Luther’s Morning Prayer

What is the Lord’s Prayer?

**Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

Preschool +

What is Martin Luther’s Morning Prayer?

**I thank you, my heavenly Father,  
Through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son,  
That You have kept me this night from all harm and danger;  
And I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil,  
That all my doings and life may please You.  
For into Your hands I commend myself,  
My body and soul, and all things.  
Let Your holy angel be with me,  
That the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

First Grade +

**Readings for the Week of the First Sunday in Advent**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Bible Stories for the Family and Academy</b>	<b>Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299</b>	
Sunday	<b>The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem—Mark 11:1-10</b>	Is. 5:1-25	1 Pet. 2:1-12
Monday	The Birth of Samson – Judges 13:1-25	Is. 6:1-7:9	1 Pet. 2:13-25
Tuesday	Samson’s Philistine Wife and His Riddle – Judges 14:1-20	Is. 7:10-8:8	1 Pet. 3:1-22
Wednesday	The Foxes, the Torches, and the Jawbone of a Donkey – Judges 15:1-20	Is. 8:9-9:7	1 Pet. 4:1-19
Thursday	Samson and Delilah – Judges 16:1-31	Is. 9:8-10:11	1 Pet. 5:1-14
Friday	The Family of Elimelech and Naomi – Ruth 1:1-22	Is. 10:12-27a, 33-34	2 Pet. 1:1-21
Saturday	Catch Up on Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Is. 11:1-12:6	2 Pet. 2:1-22

**Prayers: Collect for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Victory in Christ**

**Collect for the Week of the First Sunday in Advent:**

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Daily Themes for Prayer**

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work, for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacraments of Christ’s body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.*

**In our Prayers at Victory in Christ this Week**

**Healing**

Tina Sawall, Peg Munson, Diane Goains, Richard Schroeder, Rev. Barry Schwiesow, Jack Teague, Jacob Brewer, Orrion McJimsey, Debbie Drowwall, Joe Schober, Gordon Munson, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

**Strength**

**Our Shut-ins**

**Employment**

**Peace and Comfort**

The Rice Family and the King Family

**Expectant Mothers**

Katherine Grisham

**Military and Over Seas**

Kyle Rohloff

**College Students**

Gabrielle Funke, Hailey Richardson, Jared Rohloff, Logan Rohloff, Ben Schielke, Esther Schielke, Jacob Schielke, Gina Visingardi

**Seminarian**

John Schober

**Blessings**

**Mission / Ministries**

Our Academy and the missions we support

**Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism**

**Hymn of Week**

“Our Father, Who from Heaven Above” (sts. 5-9)

LSB 766