

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Scripture Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 16, 2026 to Sunday, August 23, 2026

Reading from the Lutheran Confessions — “Therefore, I beg you all for God’s sake, my dear sirs and brethren, who are pastors or preachers, to devote yourselves heartily to your office. Have pity on the people who are entrusted to you and help us teach the catechism to the people, and especially to the young. And let those of you who cannot do better take these tables and forms and impress them, word for word, on the people as follows.” ~The Preface of Dr. Martin Luther, *Small Catechism*

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.

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 14:8

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.

Read/Chant Psalm 67

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun, August 16	Paul Surrenders His Rights—1 Corinthians 9:1-23	2 Samuel 6:1-19
Mon, August 17	Warning Against Idolatry—1 Corinthians 9:24-10:22	2 Samuel 7:1-17
Tues, August 18	Do All the Glory of God—1 Corinthians 10:23-11:16	2 Samuel 7:18-29
Wed, August 19	The Lord’s Supper—1 Corinthians 11:17-34	2 Samuel 11:1-27
Thu, August 20	One Body with Many Members—1 Corinthians 12:1-13	2 Samuel 12:1-25
Fri, August 21	OT Lesson, 13th Sunday after Pentecost—Isaiah 51:1-6	1 Corinthians 12:14-31
Sat, August 22	Gospel Lesson, 13th Sunday after Pentecost—Matthew 16:13-20	1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Sun, August 23	Epistle Lesson, 13th Sunday after Pentecost—Romans 13:1-14	2 Corinthians 1:1-22

Collect for the Week of the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost:

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

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.

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. 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.

615 When in the Hour of Deepest Need

- 1 When in the hour of deepest need
We know not where to look for aid;
When days and nights of anxious thought
No help or counsel yet have brought,
- 2 Then is our comfort this alone
That we may meet before Your throne;
To You, O faithful God, we cry
For rescue in our misery.
- 3 For You have promised, Lord, to heed
Your children's cries in time of need
Through Him whose name alone is great,
Our Savior and our advocate.

- 4 And so we come, O God, today
And all our woes before You lay;
For sorely tried, cast down, we stand,
Perplexed by fears on ev'ry hand.
- 5 O from our sins, Lord, turn Your face;
Absolve us through Your boundless grace.
Be with us in our anguish still;
Free us at last from ev'ry ill.
- 6 So we with all our hearts each day
To You our glad thanksgiving pay,
Then walk obedient to Your Word,
And now and ever praise You, Lord.

Text: Paul Eber, 1511–69; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
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PRAYER REQUESTS