

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Scripture Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 2, 2026 to Sunday, August 9, 2026

Reading from the Lutheran Confessions — “The deplorable, miserable condition that I discovered recently when I, too, was a visitor, has forced and urged me to prepare this catechism, or Christian doctrine in this small, plain, simple form. Mercy! Dear God, what great misery I beheld! The common person, especially in the villages, has no knowledge whatever of Christian doctrine. And unfortunately, many pastors are completely unable and unqualified to teach. This is so much so, that one is ashamed to speak of it. Yet, everyone says that they are Christians, have been baptized, and receive the holy Sacraments, even though they cannot even recite the Lord’s Prayer or the Creed or the Ten Commandments. They live like dumb brutes and irrational hogs. Now that the Gospel has come, they have nicely learned to abuse all freedom like experts.” ~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.

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: Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Read/Chant Psalm 136:1-9

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun, August 2	Paul tells of His Conversion --Acts 26:24-27:8	1 Samuel 17:20-47
Mon, August 3	A Storm at Sea --Acts 27:9-26	1 Samuel 17:48-18:9
Tues, August 4	A Shipwreck --Acts 27:27-44	1 Samuel 18:10-30
Wed., August 5	Paul Arrives at Rome. --Acts 28:1-15	1 Samuel 19:1-24
Thurs, August 6	Paul in Rome --Acts 28:16-31	1 Samuel 20:1-23
Fri, August 7	Divisions in the Church at Corinth --1 Corinthians 1:1-25	1 Samuel 20:24-42
Sat, August 8	Proclaiming Christ Crucified --1 Corinthians 1:26-2:16	1 Samuel 24:1-22
Sun, August 9	More Divisions in the Corinth Church --1 Corinthians 3:1-23	1 Samuel 25:1-22

Collect for the Week of the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost:

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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.

642 O Living Bread from Heaven

- 1 O living Bread from heaven,
How well You feed your guest!
The gifts that You have given
Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing,
Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing,
With praises overflows.
- 2 My Lord, You here have led me
To this most holy place
And with Yourself have fed me
The treasures of Your grace;
For You have freely given
What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven,
That now I shall not die.

- 3 You gave me all I wanted;
This food can death destroy.
And You have freely granted
The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit
The favor You have shown,
And all my soul and spirit
Bow down before Your throne.
- 4 Lord, grant me then, thus
strengthened
With heav'nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened,
To serve with holy fear.
And when You call my spirit
To leave this world below,
I enter, through Your merit,
Where joys unmingled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
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PRAYER REQUESTS