

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Scripture Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 30, 2026 to Sunday, September 6, 2026*

Reading from the Lutheran Confessions —“Our blessed fathers understood this well also. They all used the same form of the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. Therefore, we too should be at pains to teach the young and the simple people these parts in such a way that we do not change a syllable or set them forth and repeat them one year differently than in another. Therefore, choose whatever form you please, and hold to it forever. But when you preach in the presence of learned and intelligent people, you may show your skill. You may present the parts in varied and intricate ways and give them as masterly turns as you are able. But with the young people stick to one fixed, permanent form and manner. Teach them, first of all, these parts: the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and so on, according to the text, word for word, so that they, too, can repeat it in the same way after you and commit it to memory.” ~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 15:4

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

The First Commandment

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?

We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

Read/Chant Psalm 37

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun, August 30	Epistle Lesson, 14th Sunday after Pentecost—Romans 15:8-21	2 Corinthians 8:1-24
Mon, August 31	The Sabbath Law—Exodus 31:1-14	2 Corinthians 9:1-15
Tues, Sept. 1	The Worship of the Golden Calf—Exodus 32:1-14	Ephesians 1:1-23
Wed, Sept. 2	God’s Wrath is Poured upon Israel—Exodus 32:15-35	Ephesians 2:1-22
Thu, Sept. 3	Lord Renews His Covenant—Exodus 33:1-5; 34:1-35	Ephesians 3:1-21
Fri, Sept. 4	OT Lesson, 15th Sunday after Pentecost—Genesis 28:10-17	Ephesians 4:1-24
Sat, Sept. 5	Epistle Lesson, 15th Sunday after Pentecost—Romans 16:25-27	Ephesians 4:25-5:14
Sun, Sept. 6	Gospel Lesson, 15th Sunday after Pentecost—Matthew 20:20-28	Ephesians 5:15-33

Collect for the Week of the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, 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.

531 Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus

- 1 Hail, Thou once despised Jesus!
Hail, Thou Galilean King!
Thou didst suffer to release us;
Thou didst free salvation bring.
Hail, Thou universal Savior,
Bearer of our sin and shame!
By Thy merit we find favor:
Life is given through Thy name.
- 2 Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,
All our sins on Thee were laid;
By almighty love anointed,
Thou hast full atonement made.
All Thy people are forgiven
Through the virtue of Thy blood;
Opened is the gate of heaven,
Reconciled are we with God.

- 3 Jesus, hail! Enthroned in glory,
There forever to abide;
All the heav'nly hosts adore Thee,
Seated at Thy Father's side.
There for sinners Thou art pleading;
There Thou dost our place prepare,
Ever for us interceding
Till in glory we appear.
- 4 Worship, honor, pow'r, and blessing
Thou art worthy to receive;
Highest praises, without ceasing,
Right it is for us to give.
Help, ye bright angelic spirits,
All your noblest anthems raise;
Help to sing our Savior's merits,
Help to chant Immanuel's praise!

Text (sts. 1, 3–4): Hymns Addressed to the Holy, Holy, Holy, Triune God, 1757, London, alt.; (sts. 2–4): A Collection of Psalms and Hymns, 1760, London, alt.
Text: Public domain