

*Prayer  
Requests*



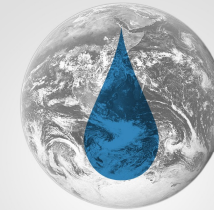
The Congregation at Prayer

# Daily Devotions

2026

A Daily Devotional

St. Paul LCMS, Ida Grove, IA



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

MATTHEW 28:19

**Week after Trinity Sunday**

May 31-June 7, 2026

**Start Every Day**

*“In the Name of the Father, and + of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen”*

recite **APOSTLE’S CREED**

VERSE: Matthew 28:19-20 ***“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”***

Read/Chant **Psalm 104:24-35**

**CATECHISM—What is the Sacrament of the Altar?**

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

**Where is this written?**

The holy evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**Sunday, May 31**

- Read **Matthew 28:16-20**
- *Secondary reading:* **Numbers 35:9-30**

CHRYSOSTOM: What does he finally say to them when he sees them? "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." He is still speaking to them according to his humanity, for they had not yet received the Spirit which was able to raise them to higher things. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
And You, from both, as Three in One  
That we Your name may ever bless  
And in our lives the truth confess.

D 7 Praise we the Father and the Son  
And Holy Spirit, with them One,  
And may the Son on us bestow  
The gifts that from the Spirit flow!

Text: attr. Rabanus Maurus, 776–856; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78,  
alt.

Text: Public domain

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.

### **498 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest**

- 1 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,  
And make our hearts Your place of rest;  
Come with Your grace and heav'nly aid,  
And fill the hearts which You have made.
- 2 To You, the Counselor, we cry,  
To You, the gift of God Most High;  
The fount of life, the fire of love,  
The soul's anointing from above.
- 3 In You, with graces sevenfold,  
We God's almighty hand behold  
While You with tongues of fire proclaim  
To all the world His holy name.
- 4 Your light to ev'ry thought impart,  
And shed Your love in ev'ry heart;  
The weakness of our mortal state  
With deathless might invigorate.
- 5 Drive far away our wily foe,  
And Your abiding peace bestow;  
With You as our protecting guide,  
No evil can with us abide.

teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." He gives them one charge with a view toward teaching and another charge concerning his commandments. He makes no mention of the future of the Jews. He does not scold Peter for his denial or any one of the others for their flight. Having put into their hands a summary of Christian teaching, which is expressed in the form of baptism, he commands them to go out into the whole world. THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, HOMILY 90.2.<sup>1</sup>

### **Monday, June 1**

- Read **John 9:24-41**
- *Secondary Reading: Ecclesiastes 9:1-17*

THEODORE OF MOPSUESTIA: What Jesus said elsewhere, namely, "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order to save it," is not contrary to this statement. For there it states the purpose of Jesus' coming: that all people may be saved. Here he talks about the outcome of his coming. In fact, even though this is his will, that is, to save all people, the unbelievers nonetheless must be absolutely punished because of their choice not to believe. Here he indicates what seems to be the outcome of these events. As is only reasonable, he says, I came to test

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<sup>1</sup> Simonetti, Manlio, ed. 2002. [Matthew 14-28](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: IVP.

individuals in order to ascertain who are blind and who are able to see. Now he who was believed to be blind, twice received eyes to see. He received bodily eyes and, to the perfection of his soul, he received saving doctrine. Those [i.e., the Pharisees] who think they see with bodily eyes, who have been entrusted with the teaching of the precepts of the law, appear to be blind, both because they do not accept the truth and because they do not believe the works that they have seen with their own eyes. COMMENTARY ON JOHN 4.9.39–41.<sup>2</sup>

### **Tuesday, June 2**

- Read **John 10:1-21**
- *Secondary Reading: Ecclesiastes 10:1-20*

AUGUSTINE: Our Lord just said now that he was a shepherd. He also said he was a gate.... He is the gate in the head and the shepherd in the body. You see, he says to Peter, whom he singles out to represent his [body the] church, “Peter, do you love me?” ... as though to say, What will you give me, what proof will you provide me with that you love me?... If you love me, feed my sheep; enter in by the Door and do not go up another way.... Who is the one who enters by the door? The one who enters by Christ. And who is that? The one who imitates Christ’s passion, who understands Christ’s humility, understands that while God has become

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<sup>2</sup> Elowsky, Joel C., ed. 2006. [John 1–10](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

a marvelous prophecy even from an evil imagination. HOMILIES ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN 65.1.<sup>7</sup>

### **Sunday, June 7**

- Read **John 12:1-19**
- *Second Reading: Proverbs 4:1-27*

### **End Every Day**

#### **Pray the *Collect for Trinity Sunday***

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **Personal Prayers**

#### *pray* **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,

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<sup>7</sup> Elowsky, Joel C., ed. 2007. [John 11–21](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Saying, 'You are the Life and the Resurrection' ”?

The faithful person always has power for whatever he wants,

Since he possesses the faith which strengthens all things;

Through faith which is in Christ

He is strengthened for whatever he asks.

This faith is a great possession;

The one who has it, has power over everything.

They had it and were renowned for it—

Both Mary and Martha

KONTAKION ON THE RAISING OF LAZARUS 26.1–2.<sup>6</sup>

### **Saturday, June 6**

- Read **John 11:38-57**

- *Secondary Reading: Proverbs 3:5-24*

CHRYSOSTOM: Do you see the great power in the high priest's authority?... Even though he was unworthy of the office of the high priest, he prophesied, although he did not know what he was saying.

Divine grace merely made use of his mouth, without touching his corrupt heart.... See how great the power of the Spirit is. It was able to bring forth

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<sup>6</sup> Elowsky, Joel C., ed. 2007. [John 11–21](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

man for us, he himself as a human being is not God, just a man [person]. I mean to say, anyone who wishes to play God while he is just a man is not imitating the one who, while he was God, became a man. SERMON 137.3–4.<sup>3</sup>

### **Wednesday, June 3**

- Read **John 10:22-42**

- *Secondary Reading: Ecclesiastes 11:1-10*

ORIGEN: For “no one snatches us away from his hands,” according to what was said in the Gospel according to John. Yet it is not written that just as no one snatches us away, no one also falls from his hands. For one who is self-determined is free. And, I say, no one will snatch us away from the hand of God, no one can take us. But we are able to fall from his hands if we are negligent. HOMILIES ON JEREMIAH 18.3.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Elowsky, Joel C., ed. 2006. [John 1–10](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

<sup>4</sup> Elowsky, Joel C., ed. 2006. [John 1–10](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

#### **Thursday, June 4**

- Read **John 11:1-16**
- *Secondary Reading:* **Ecclesiastes 12:1-14**

ROMANUS MELODUS:

Let us all, with longing, run to Bethany to see  
Christ there, weeping for his friend.  
For desiring all things to be ordained by law,  
He accomplishes all things in the duality of his  
nature. He suffers as son of David.  
As Son of God, he redeems the whole world  
From all the evil of the serpent,  
And on the fourth day, he raises up Lazarus,  
Taking pity as the one who has compassion on  
*The tears of Mary and Martha.*

Together sustained by faith,  
These women announced to Christ and to God  
the death of their sibling, saying,  
“Hurry, come, you who are always present in all  
places,  
For Lazarus whom you love is sick.  
Therefore if you come near,  
Death will run away, and your friend will be  
delivered from corruption,  
And the Jews will see that you, the Merciful  
One, have had compassion on  
*The tears of Mary and Martha.*”

KONTAKION ON THE RAISING OF LAZARUS 27.2–3.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Elowsky, Joel C., ed. 2007. [John 11–21](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

#### **Friday, June 5**

- Read **John 11:17-37**
- *Secondary Reading:* **Proverbs 1:8-33**

ROMANUS MELODUS:

Having compassion on the tears of Mary and  
Martha,  
You have said to them:  
“He will be resurrected and he will rise up,  
Saying, ‘You are the life and resurrection.’”

In considering the tomb and those in the tomb,  
we weep,  
But we should not. For we do not know where  
they have come from,  
Or where they are now, or who has them.  
They have gone from this present life,  
Released from its sorrows.  
They are at peace,  
Awaiting the divine illumination.  
The Lover of humanity has them in his charge,  
And he has divested them of their temporal  
clothing  
In order that he may clothe them with an  
eternal body.  
Why, then, in vain do we weep?  
Why do we not believe Christ, as he cries:  
“Whoever believes in me shall not perish,  
For even if he knows corruption, after that  
corruption,  
He will be resurrected; he will rise up,