

- 2 My loving Father, here You take me
To be henceforth Your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, here You make me
The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
When threat'ning clouds around I see.
- 3 My faithful God, You fail me never;
Your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever
If words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled;
Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.
- 4 All that I am and love most dearly—
Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely;
Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own
Serve any will but Yours alone.

Text: Johann Jacob Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
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*Prayer
Requests*



The Congregation at Prayer
Daily Devotions

2026

A Daily Devotional
St. Paul LCMS, Ida Grove, IA



Fifth Week of Easter
May 3-May 10, 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: 1 Peter 3:21 **“Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”**

Read/Chant **Psalm 146**

CATECHISM—Confess—What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

Sunday, May 3

- Read **1 Peter 4:1-11**
- *Secondary reading: Leviticus 20:1-27*

ANDREAS: (1 Peter 4:1) Some people say that the soul is living and the body dead, but it is impossible for a soul to come to judgment without its own body. Rather here Peter calls the righteous "living," because they do the works of the life to come, and the unrighteous he calls "dead," because they are dead in their transgressions and dead works. But the gospel has been preached to both the righteous and the unrighteous, even to those who are dead in their sins, so that they may judge themselves by casting their vote against themselves. CATENA.¹

Monday, May 4

- Read **1 Peter 4:1-11**
- *Secondary Reading: Leviticus 21:1-24*

OECUMENIUS: (1 Peter 4:6) This means that those who are now attacking believers will have to give account of themselves to him who judges

¹ Bray, Gerald, ed. 2000. [*James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude*](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, 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, 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.

590 Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

- 1 Baptized into Your name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
Your Spirit now shall live within.

vengeance, which will be as great as the punishment which they deserve. ON 1 PETER.⁶

Saturday, May 9

- Read **1 Peter 4:1-19**
- *Secondary Reading: Leviticus 26:21-44*

BASIL THE GREAT: (1 Peter 4:18) When I see Moses asking for forgiveness and not obtaining it, when I see him considered unworthy of pardon because of his few words, spoken against the rock in anger, in spite of his many good deeds, I truly realize what the severity of God is like and am persuaded that these words of the apostle are true. ON THE JUDGMENT OF GOD.⁷

Sunday, May 10

- Read **1 Peter 5:1-14**
- *Second Reading: Leviticus 20:1-27*

End Every Day

Pray the *Collect for 5th Sunday of Easter*

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;

⁶ Bray, Gerald, ed. 2000. [*James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude*](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

⁷ Bray, Gerald, ed. 2000. [*James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude*](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

everyone, both living and dead, for the dead are also judged, as is clear from Christ's descent into hell. For when he went there after his death on the cross he preached in the same way as he had preached to those who were alive on earth. Moreover, he did this not in word but in deed. And just as when he came into the world in order to justify those who were ready to acknowledge him and to condemn those who refused to do so, so he did exactly the same in hell. For he went to judge those who had lived according to the flesh, but those who had lived according to the Spirit, that is, who had lived an honest and spiritual life, he raised to glory and salvation. COMMENTARY ON 1 PETER.²

Tuesday, May 5

- Read **1 Peter 4:1-11**
- *Secondary Reading: Leviticus 23:1-22*

CHRYSOSTOM: (1 Peter 4:9) If you receive your neighbor as though he were Christ, you will not complain or feel embarrassed but rather rejoice in your service. But if you do not receive him as if he were Christ, you will not receive Christ either, because he said: "Whoever receives you, receives me." If you do not show hospitality in this way, you will have no reward. Abraham received passers-by and travelers just as they were. He did not leave them to his servants. On the contrary, he ordered

² Bray, Gerald, ed. 2000. [*James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude*](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

his wife to bring flour, even though he had domestic help. But he and his wife wanted to earn the blessing, not only of hospitality but of service also. This is how we ought to show hospitality, by doing all the work ourselves, so that we may be sanctified. CATENA.³

Wednesday, May 6

- Read **1 Peter 4:11-19**
- *Secondary Reading: Leviticus 23:23-44*

CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA: (1 Peter 4:11) Those who offer hospitality to others make themselves happy and content, not so much because they are giving of their own as because they are being helped by others. And this in two ways; first, because they enjoy the company of their guests, and second, because they earn a reward for their hospitality. But if you receive a brother, do not be distracted by too much serving, and do not attempt what is beyond your strength. Unnecessary effort is always tedious, and such exertions will only embarrass your guests. Do not let your guest become a cause for impoverishing yourself, but even in hard times be as generous as you can. CATENA.⁴

³ Bray, Gerald, ed. 2000. [*James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude*](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

⁴ Bray, Gerald, ed. 2000. [*James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude*](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Thursday, April 30

- Read **1 Peter 4:12-19**
- *Secondary Reading: Leviticus 24:1-23*

THEOPHYLACT: (1 Peter 4:15) A meddler is someone who loves to mind other people's business in order to find reasons for attacking them. This is the mentality of a wicked and treacherous person who is prepared to engage in any kind of evil.

COMMENTARY ON 1 PETER.⁵

Friday, May 8

- Read **1 Peter 4:12-19**
- *Secondary Reading: Leviticus 26:1-20*

BEDE: (1 Peter 4:15) Scripture teaches us that there are two kinds of divine judgment—one which is hidden and one which is public. The hidden judgment is a punishment by which each one of us is moved to repentance, or to conversion, or if we despise the calling and discipline of God, to damnation. The public judgment is the one which will take place when Christ comes again to judge the living and the dead. This judgment is already beginning at the house of God, that is, in the church, in that by undergoing our present sufferings we are being prepared for the joys of eternity. The wicked are currently living securely in this present transitory life, but once that is over there will be nothing left for them but God's

⁵ Bray, Gerald, ed. 2000. [*James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude*](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.