The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Scripture Meditation and Prayer
For the 24th Week after Pentecost
Sunday, November 8, 2026 to Sunday, November 15, 2026

Reading from the Lutheran Confessions —*"You shall have no other gods. What this means: You shall have Me alone as your God. What is the meaning of this, and how is it to be understood? What does it mean to have a god? Or, what is God? Answer: A god means that from which we are to expect all good and in which we are to take refuge in all distress. So, to have a God is nothing other than trusting and believing Him with the hear. I have often said that the confidence and faith of the heart alone make both God and an idol. If your faith and trust is right, then your god is also true. On the other hand, if your trust is false and wrong, then you do not have the true God. For these two belong together, faith and God (Hebrews 11:6). Now, I say that whatever you set your heart on and put your trust in is truly your god." The First Commandment, paragraph 1-3, Luther's Large 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: 1 Thessalonians 4:16

For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

The Close of the Commandments—What does God say about these commandments?
He says, "I the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments." (Ex. 20:5-6)
What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

Read/Chant *Psalm 70*

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun, Nov. 8	**Gospel Lesson, 24th Sunday after Pentecost—Luke 2:22-38**	Matthew 24:29-51
Mon, Nov. 9	Joshua Takes Moses' Place—Joshua 1:1-18	Matthew 25:1-13
Tues, Nov. 10	Rahab Harlot Hides the Spies—Joshua 2:1-24	Matthew 25:14-30
Wed, Nov. 11	Israel Crosses over the Jordan—Joshua 3:1-17	Matthew 25:31-46
Thu, Nov. 12	Israel Celebrates the Passover—Joshua 5:10-15	Matthew 26:1-19
Fri, Nov. 13	Epistle Lesson, 25th Sunday after Pentecost—1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 26:20-35
Sat, Nov. 14	OT Lesson, 25th Sunday after Pentecost—Zephaniah 1:7-16	Matthew 26:36-56
Sun, Nov. 15	Gospel Lesson, 25th Sunday after Pentecost—Matthew 25:14-30	Matthew 27:1-10

Collect for 24th Sunday after Pentecost:

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; 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.

516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

1 "Wake, awake, for night is flying,"
The watchmen on the heights are crying;
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"
Midnight hears the welcome voices
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes, awake!
Your lamps with gladness take!
Alleluia!
With bridal care
Yourselves prepare
To meet the Bridegroom, who is near."

2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,
And all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious;
Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
Now come, Thou Blessèd One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son,
Hail! Hosanna!
We enter all
The wedding hall
To eat the Supper at Thy call.

3 Now let all the heav'ns adore Thee,
Let saints and angels sing before Thee
With harp and cymbals' clearest tone.
Of one pearl each shining portal,
Where, joining with the choir immortal,
We gather round Thy radiant throne.
No eye has seen the light,
No ear has heard the might
Of Thy glory;
Therefore will we
Eternally
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
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