

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Scripture Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 4, 2026 to Sunday, October 11, 2026*

Reading from the Lutheran Confessions — “In this matter you should especially urge magistrates and parents to rule well and send their children to school. Show them why it is their duty to do this and what a damnable sin they are committing if they do not do it. For by such neglect they overthrow and destroy both God’s kingdom and that of the world. They act as the worst enemies both of God and of people. Make it very plain to them what an awful harm they are doing if they will not help to train children to be pastors, preachers, clerks, and to fill other offices that we cannot do without in this life. God will punish them terribly for this failure. There is great need to preach this. In this matter parents and rulers are now sinning in unspeakable ways. The devil, too, hopes to accomplish something cruel because of these things.”
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 8:26

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray or as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

The Sixth Commandment

You shall not commit adultery.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

Read/Chant Psalm 80:7-19

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun, Oct. 4	Gospel Lesson, 19th Sunday after Pentecost—Mark 10:46-52	Matthew 8:1-17
Mon, Oct. 5	The People of Israel Complain—Numbers 11:1-17	Matthew 8:18-34
Tues, Oct. 6	The Lord Feeds His Grumbling People with Quail—Numbers 11:18-35	Matthew 9:1-17
Wed, Oct. 7	Aaron & Miriam Speak Against Moses—Numbers 12:1-16	Matthew 9:18-38
Thu, Oct. 8	Spies are Sent into Canaan—Numbers 13:1-33	Matthew 10:1-23
Fri, Oct. 9	Old Testament Lesson, 20 th Sunday after Pentecost—Isaiah 6:1-7	Matthew 10:24-42
Sat, Oct. 10	Gospel Lesson, 20 th Sunday after Pentecost—Matthew 21:1-11	Matthew 11:1-19
Sun, Oct. 11	Epistle Lesson, 20 th Sunday after Pentecost—Colossians 1:15-23	Matthew 11:20-30

Collect for the Week of the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; 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.

768 To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray

- 1 To God the Holy Spirit let us pray
For the true faith needed on our way
That He may defend us when life is ending
And from exile home we are wending.
Lord, have mercy!
- 2 O sweetest Love, Your grace on us bestow;
Set our hearts with sacred fire aglow
That with hearts united we love each other,
Ev'ry stranger, sister, and brother.
Lord, have mercy!

- 3 Transcendent Comfort in our ev'ry need,
Help us neither scorn nor death to heed
That we may not falter nor courage fail us
When the foe shall taunt and assail us.
Lord, have mercy!
- 4 Shine in our hearts, O Spirit, precious light;
Teach us Jesus Christ to know aright
That we may abide in the Lord who bought us,
Till to our true home He has brought us.
Lord, have mercy!

Text: tr. Worship Supplement, 1969, alt.; (st. 1): German, c. 13th cent.; (sts. 2-4): Martin Luther, 1483-1546
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