

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

Nineteenth Week after Trinity

October 6, 2024, through October 13, 2024

Life Thoughts-- The horror of abortion happening over 3,000 times each day in the U.S. should make Christians angry. The silence of the Church and the indifference of fellow congregational members should make Christians angry. But anger must not lead us to sin (Ephesians 4:26). Screaming and yelling and returning evil for evil is not the way of the body of Christ. The truth needs to be proclaimed but without “bitterness and wrath” (4:31).

Stewardship Thoughts-- Ephesians 4:24 – “Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.” The battle between the old self in Adam and the new self in Christ is fought in the heart and mind of every Christian. Paul encourages us to put on the new man which is created in the image of God. Our sanctification, our growth in godliness, is a growth into God’s image. So we do this by keeping our eyes on Christ and imitating Him in everything: in love, in kindness, in self-giving generosity.

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. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Ephesians 4:25-27

“Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down and your anger and give no opportunity to the devil.”

Read or Chant Psalm 84

Lord’s Prayer--The Third Petition

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean? The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How does God’s Kingdom come? God’s will is done when He breaks and hinders every plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God’s name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die.

This is His good and gracious will.

| Day | Bible Stories for Daily Devotions | Second Reading |
|-----------------|--|------------------|
| Sun., Oct. 6 | Epistle Lesson, 19 th Sunday after Trinity—Matthew 9:1-8 | Genesis 28:10-17 |
| Mon., Oct. 7 | He who says he abides in Him out to walk as he walked—1 John 2:1-7 | Nehemiah 1:1-11 |
| Tues., Oct. 8 | He who hates his brother is in darkness still—1 John 2:8-11 | Nehemiah 2:1-20 |
| Wed., Oct. 9 | Everyone who believes Jesus is the Christ is a child of God—1 John 5:1-3 | Nehemiah 4:1-23 |
| Thurs., Oct. 10 | The son of God has given us understanding—1 John 5:13-21 | Nehemiah 8:1-18 |
| Fri., Oct. 11 | Anyone who does not abide in the Christ does not have God—2 John 1-13 | Nehemiah 9:1-38 |
| Sat., Oct. 12 | No greater Joy—3 John 1-15 | Zechariah 8:1-17 |
| Sun., Oct. 13 | Gospel Lesson, 20 th Sunday after Trinity—Matthew 22:1-14 | Isaiah 55:1-9 |

Pray the Collect for Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity:

Almighty and merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep from us all things that may hurt us that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever You would have us do; 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 and Petitions

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.

Hymn of the Week

Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

LSB 708

1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart;
I pray Thee, ne'er from me depart,
 With tender mercy cheer me.
Earth has no pleasure I would share.
Yea, heav'n itself were void and bare
 If Thou, Lord, wert not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break,
My trust in Thee can nothing shake.
 Thou art the portion I have sought;
 Thy precious blood my soul has bought.
Lord Jesus Christ, my God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust Thy Word.

2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich bounty gave
My body, soul, and all I have
 In this poor life of labor.
Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place
May glorify Thy lavish grace
 And help and serve my neighbor.

Text: Martin Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Let no false doctrine me beguile;
Let Satan not my soul defile.
 Give strength and patience unto me
 To bear my cross and follow Thee.
Lord Jesus Christ, my God and Lord, my God and Lord,
In death Thy comfort still afford.

3 Lord, let at last Thine angels come,
To Abr'ham's bosom bear me home,
 That I may die unfeared;
And in its narrow chamber keep
My body safe in peaceful sleep
 Until Thy reappearing.
And then from death awaken me,
That these mine eyes with joy may see,
 O Son of God, Thy glorious face,
 My Savior and my fount of grace.
Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend, my prayer attend,
And I will praise Thee without end.

Looking forward to LWML Sunday (Trinity 20)

October 13, 2024

HYMNS: Serve the Lord with Gladness, 828, 855, 644

Isaiah 55:1-9

Ephesians 5:15-21

Matthew 22:1-14