

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Scripture Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 27, 2026 to Sunday, October 4, 2026

Reading from the Lutheran Confessions — “In the third place, after you have taught them this short catechism, then take up the Large Catechism and give them also a richer and fuller knowledge. Here enlarge upon every commandment, petition, and part with its various works, uses, benefits, dangers,, and injuries, as you find these abundantly stated in many books written about these matters. In particular, urge the commandment or part that most suffers the greatest neglect among your people. For example, the Seventh commandment, about stealing, must be strongly urged among mechanics and merchants, and even farmers and servants. For among these people many kinds of dishonesty and stealing prevail. So, too, you must drive home the fourth commandment among the children and the common people, so that they may be quiet and faithful, obedient and peaceable. You must always offer many examples from the Scriptures to show how God has punished or blessed such persons (Deuteronomy 28). 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: Luke 2:14

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased.”

The Fifth Commandment

You shall not murder.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need..

Read/Chant Psalm 25

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun, Sept. 27	Gospel Lesson, 18th Sunday after Pentecost—Luke 2:8-14	Matthew 4:12-25
Mon, Sept. 28	The Second Passover—Numbers 9:1-14	Matthew 5:1-20
Tues, Sept. 29	The Feast of St. Michael, OT Lesson—Daniel 10:10-14, 12:1-3	Matthew 5:21-48
Wed, Sept. 30	Pillar of Cloud by Day and Pillar of Fire by Night—Numbers 9:15-23	Matthew 6:1-15
Thu, Oct. 1	Israel Departs from Sinai—Numbers 10:11-36	Matthew 6:15-34
Fri, Oct. 2	The Soul Who Sins Shall Die—Ezekiel 18:1-32	Matthew 7:1-12
Sat, Oct. 3	Epistle Lesson, 19 th Sunday after Pentecost—Romans 8:26-30	Matthew 7:13-29
Sun, Oct. 4	Gospel Lesson, 19 th Sunday after Pentecost—Mark 10:46-52	Matthew 8:1-17

Collect for the Week of the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; 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.

948 All Glory Be to God Alone

- 1 All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the highest one,
Who did our sinful race befriend
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among us may His gracious will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.
- 2 We praise You, God; Your name we bless
And worship You in humbleness;
From day to day we glorify
The everlasting God on high.
Of Your great glory do we sing,
And to Your throne our thanks we bring.
- 3 Lord God, our King on heaven's throne,
Our Father, the Almighty One.
O Lord, the sole-begotten One,

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,
True God from all eternity,
O Lamb of God, to You we flee.

- 4 You take the whole world's sin away;
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
You take the whole world's sin away;
O Lord, receive our prayer this day.
From God's right hand Your mercy send,
To all the world Your grace extend.
- 5 You only are the Holy One
And over all are Lord alone.
O Jesus Christ, we glorify
You and the Spirit, Lord Most High;
With Him You evermore shall be
One in the Father's majesty.

Text: attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.
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