

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of Reminiscere (The Second Sunday in Lent)

March 16<sup>th</sup> through March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

**Catechesis Notes for the Week—“What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors”**—This section from the Table of Duties speaks of the responsibility of the congregation to provide temporal support for her pastor who faithfully preaches the Gospel and administers the Sacraments to her members. Every Christian is called by the Gospel to “share all good things with his instructor.” It is a mockery of God when members of the congregations turn a deaf ear to the Word of God and a hard heart toward the care of their pastors. Such neglect flows from impenitence and unbelief. Where there is faith there will be love, affection, and generous support of the Church’s pastors by her members. Chief among the duties of Christians is the faithful hearing of the Word of God when it is preached and taught by our pastors. Pastors receive the greatest joy in their ministry when the people of the congregation come eagerly to hear the Word of God when it is taught and receive it with joy and the hearty “Amen” of faith. The “Amen” of faith is confessed in the way in which the congregation takes care of her pastor.

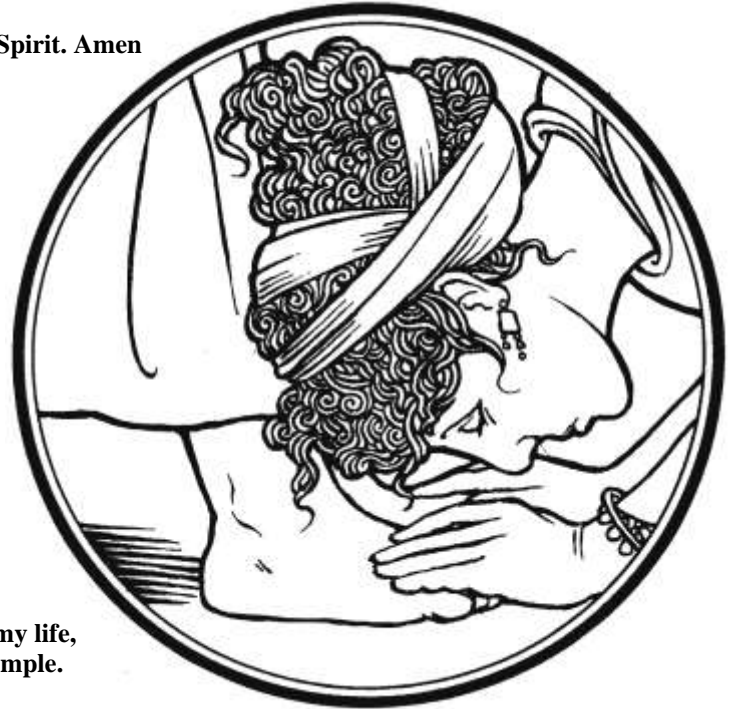
## The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or use as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

### Theme: Faith Rests Confidently in God’s Promise

#### Invocation

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



#### Apostles’ Creed

#### Verse: Psalm 27:4

One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek:  
That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life,  
To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

#### Psalm 121 (antiphon: v. 1-2)—Pray the Psalm Daily

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord Jesus, teach us to look to You in faith at all times and to believe, with certainty, that You will preserve us from all evil, that we might know the consolation of Your eternal love and protection, in Your holy name we pray. Amen.

#### The Catechism: The Table of Duties—What Hearers Owe Their Pastors - First Half

<p>What does God’s Word say the hearers of God’s Word owe their pastors? The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.</p>	<p>First Grade + 1 Corinthians 9:14</p>
<p>Anyone who receives instruction in the Word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.</p>	<p>Second Grade + Galatians 6:6-7</p>
<p>The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, “Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,” and “The worker deserves his wages.”</p>	<p>Third Grade + 1 Timothy 5:17-18</p>

**Prayer for Hearers of God's Word:** O Lord Jesus, we give thanks to You for the gift of pastors who preach Your saving Gospel and administer Your life-giving sacraments to us. Crucify our flesh and destroy all impenitence and unbelief in us, so that we who have received faithful instruction in the Word of God might provide generously for the support of our pastors. Teach us to believe that our pastors, who faithfully sow the seed and tread out the grain of Your Word, are worthy of their wages and are entitled to reap from what they have sown. Teach us to believe that preaching and teaching Your Word is the most important work that our pastors do, so that we might honor and support them in this work, live together with them in the peace of Your forgiveness, and hold them in the highest regard in love for the sake of the Gospel; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Readings for the week of Reminiscere (The Second Sunday in Lent)**

Day	First Reading	Second Reading
Monday	Life and Judgment through the Son—John 5:24-30	1 John 2:23-29
Tuesday	The Fourfold Witness—John 5:31-47	1 John 5:4-13
Wednesday	<b>MIDWEEK: Mocked</b> —Psalm 22:6-13	Matthew 27:38-44
Thursday	<b>St. Joseph: Guardian of Jesus</b> —Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 (transferred from Wed.)	Romans 4:13-18
Friday	The Feeding of the Five Thousand—John 6:1-21	Deut. 18:15-22
Saturday	Sunday's OT and Epistle—Exodus 8:16-24	Ephesians 5:1-9

**Prayers: Collects for the Week; Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Peace**

Collect for The Second Sunday in Lent:

**O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect for the Commemoration of St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus (Wednesday):

**Almighty God, from the house of Your servant David You raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the husband of His mother, Mary. Grant us grace to follow the example of this faithful workman in heeding Your counsel and obeying Your commands; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

*In Our Prayers this Week* (See Bulletin)

*Lord's Prayer and Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism*

*Hymn of the Week*

*Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart*

*LSB #708*

**Looking forward to the Week of Oculi (The Third Sunday in Lent)**

**March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025**

**Hymns: 902, 659, 622, 614, 618, 345, 641, 541, 922**

**Exodus 8:16-24:** The power of Satan (the power behind Egypt's sorcerers), can at times, seem impressive. But it is no match for the power of Him who created Satan. Those who oppose the LORD and His people will receive His wrath and punishment. But that is His alien work and it is always done so that His enemies would turn and be saved. The love of God in Christ Jesus is more powerful than all His enemies.

**Ephesians 5:1-9:** What does it mean to "walk in love"? This is a reference to living by faith in the love of Christ. To live by faith in His grace is to live the life that flees from sin in repentance and confession, hears and trusts in God's absolution for Christ's sake, and, by the grace and Spirit of God, lives in love toward other sinners.

**Luke 11:14-28:** This Gospel teaches of the great power of Satan and all his evil demons. They are enemies of God, enemies of faith, and enemies of God's Word. All who are not believers in Christ are in the kingdom of Satan. When one is baptized he becomes an enemy of Satan twice over because he now belongs to Christ. There is nothing that Satan desires more than to rob us of our faith in Christ. In the parable that Jesus tells, He is the stronger Man who binds Satan and casts him out of the house. He does this by His Saving Word. Nothing is more necessary for the Christian in Satan's attacks against his faith than the strong Word of Christ. Those who cling to Christ's Word in preaching, catechesis, repentance, and faith have nothing to fear from Satan. We have Jesus' promise against our arch enemy: "Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!" To cling to His Word is safety, protection, and eternal life.