

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels
September 28, 2025 through October 4, 2025

Notes on the Weekday Readings—Monday: The true God is the God who gives eternal life and saves His people from the bondage of sin. The commandments identify our sin to drive us to the only Savior. The Law always accuses and condemns. This is its chief work in this life; to break our stubborn hearts and move us to cry out to our only hope. The terrifying scene at Sinai shows our need for a Mediator to go before God for us. **Tuesday:** All the commandments are summed up in the First. The underlying accusation of every commandment is that we do not fear, love, and trust in God above all things. The judgment of the Law is that we are rightfully condemned and deserve His wrath. Moses did not trust in the Law, but appealed to God's grace and asked Him to remember His promise, and to forgive and spare His people. Faith drives us to the God who promises salvation to poor sinners. **Wednesday:** Moses offered himself as an atonement for the sins of the people, yet he could not pay the price for sin and cover it. There is only One who can take our place and bear the wrath on our behalf. That is our Lord Jesus Christ, who has gone before us into death and the grave, yet could not be held by them, and in Him they cannot hold us. **Thursday:** The Pharisees come with the condemnation of the Law and destruction. Jesus brings the good news of God's gracious forgiveness for repentant sinners, rescuing us from the darkness of death and calling us to stand before God in His mercy. **Friday:** The Son of the Father takes our place under the condemnation of the Law to cover our sins as the perfect atonement. This is the joyous exchange, that the sins of the world are charged to Jesus that His righteousness might be given to the world. Though the Law rightly condemns us with abundant evidence, Jesus is convicted with no evidence. Here is the vicarious or substitutionary atonement that Christ suffered the condemnation of the Law and died in the place of all sinners.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray out loud as much as you are able, and as your family size and ages dictate.

Theme of the Week: The Ministry of Michael and All the Angels of God

Invocation

Ten Commandments

You shall have no other gods.	You shall not steal.
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.	You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.	You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
Honor your father and your mother.	You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or
You shall not murder.	maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your
You shall not commit adultery.	neighbor.

What does God say about all 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."

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Verse: "Whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it" (James 2:10).

Psalms of the Week: 91

Daily Readings

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Matthew 18:1 – 11 <i>St. Michael and All Angels</i>	Song of Solomon 2

Monday	Exodus 20:1 – 21 <i>God's Law Threatens and Accuses</i>	Song of Solomon 3
Tuesday	Exodus 32:1 – 14 <i>The Worship of the Golden Calf</i>	Song of Solomon 4
Wednesday	Exodus 32:15 – 35 <i>God's Wrath Is Poured Out Upon Idolaters</i>	Matins/Vespers: 1 Samuel 29:1–11
Thursday	John 8:2 – 11 <i>Jesus and the Woman Caught in Adultery</i>	Song of Solomon 5
Friday	Luke 23:13 – 25 <i>Jesus Takes the Place of the Guilty</i>	Song of Solomon 6
Saturday	Tomorrow's readings	Song of Solomon 7

The Catechism – The Ten Commandments

What is the Close of the Commandments? 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.

Prayers

Sunday: Everlasting God, You have ordained and constituted the service of angels and men in a wonderful order. Mercifully grant that, as Your holy angels always serve and worship You in heaven, so by Your appointment they may also help and defend us here on earth; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Monday thru Saturday: O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

O Lord, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers:

The Church: Our congregation, Pastor Andrew Gerike, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, President Matthew Harrison, The Nebraska District and President Richard Snow, our seminaries, and sister churches in Norway, Portugal, Uruguay, & Ukraine; *The World:* Our Nation, President, Governor, Mayor, all public servants, and the armed forces; *Our missionaries:* Daniel & Kathy Conrad, David & Valerie Federwitz, Lutherans For Life, the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society & Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, South Asia Lutheran Mission; *Our homebound:* Char Emmanuel, Pat Helmke, Marilyn Pacas, Jean Schwalm; *Expectant mothers:* Courtney Christoffers, Elizabeth Fusselman, Jessica Whirrett; *All others in need:* Dick Chappell, Sandy Kemper, Theodore Feavel, Paul Luedeman, Amanda Jansky, Larry Ashe, David Christian, the Nuer people of South Sudan, Barb Masilko, Jean Young, Janet Christian, Jean Babel, Aaron and Katherine Sterling, Hayes Gonzalez, Isaiah Brandt (newborn son of Sean and Hannah Brandt), Genelle Rohe (grandmother of Jesse Nigro, hospitalized); *Our catechumens:* Eli Cade, Thaddaeus Fusselman, Anastasia Gerike, Cecilia Gerike, Michael Gerike, Freddy Hertwig

Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy; grant them comfort and sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Morning: 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.

Evening: 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 Month: 760 *What God Ordains Is Always Good*

Looking forward to the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Job 1:1 – 3, 13 – 21 Ephesians 3:13 – 21 Luke 7:11 – 17

Hymns: 759, 758, 617, 461, 756, 467, 598