

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
October 4, 2026 through October 10, 2026

Notes on the Readings—Monday: God blesses His people by declaring them saved by His name. The Word of God is the means by which we are set apart as His own in Holy Baptism, where our Lord declares us righteous and gives us His name as our tower of refuge. The Divine Service closes with this Benediction and the response of faith, “Amen.” It is the confession of the baptized that there is no salvation apart from the Holy Trinity. **Tuesday:** Through the death of the Son of Man our bodies of death are cleansed. He cleanses those subject to death by having entered the filth of the grave and being raised again on the third day for our justification. Just as those who touched a dead body were, through water and God’s declaration, made clean, so also we have been declared righteous for the sake of our Lord who suffered death and was raised on the third day. **Thursday:** God gave the Israelites the cloud as a visible sign attached to His word of promise that He would go with them and lead them into the Promised Land. The people followed the cloud because they lived by faith in the word of promise. In Christ, the Word became flesh dwelt among us that He might open heaven for us and bring us into the cloud of His presence. As that first cloud was also a pillar of fire, so He gives the fire of the Holy Spirit in Baptism to purify us of all unrighteousness. **Friday:** Moses invited Hobab to be his eyes, but the Lord already promised to lead His people. The three days of travel remind us once again that only the Trinity can lead us in the way of life. Hobab’s refusal marked him as one who did not desire life with God but the life of this world. Jesus calls us to follow Him rather than father, mother, husband, wife, or anyone in this world. He has set us apart in Baptism that in His Church we might have all the good things the Lord gives us.

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: Resisting the Flesh Led by the Devil

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: “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

Psalm of the Week: 84

Daily Readings

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Matthew 9:1 – 8 Healing of the Paralytic	Isaiah 1

Monday	Numbers 6:22 – 27 <i>The Priestly Blessing</i>	Isaiah 2
Tuesday	Numbers 9:1 – 14 <i>The Second Passover</i>	Isaiah 3
Wednesday	Matins/Vespers: 1 Kings 7:1 – 51	Isaiah 4 – 5
Thursday	Numbers 9:15 – 23 <i>A Pillar of Cloud By Day and a Pillar of Fire by Night</i>	Isaiah 6 – 7
Friday	Numbers 10:11 – 14a, 29 – 36 <i>Israel Departs from Sinai</i>	Isaiah 8
Saturday	Tomorrow's readings (see bottom of page)	Isaiah 9

The Catechism – The Ten Commandments: Close of the 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

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.

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, our work with churches in Brazil, Czech Republic, & China, persecuted Christians in Pakistan; *The World:* Our Nation, President, Governor, Mayor, all public servants, and the armed forces, peace in the Middle East, South Sudan, & Ukraine; *Missions:* 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, Norma Kelly, Jean Schwalm; *Expectant mothers:* Jill Raak, Amanda Warner, Lydia Blank; *All others in need:* Dick Chappell, Theodore Feavel, Paul Luedeman, Amanda Jansky, Nancy Goesch, Jeremy Long, Jim Bygrave, Tim Lonergan, Brock Boss, Shirley Gibbs, Jolene Whirrett, Mirk Volejnik, Lanette Insinger, Dacia Reinke

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.

Looking forward to the Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 17:5 – 10 Ephesians 5:15 – 21 Matthew 21:33 – 44

Hymns: TLH 260, 568, 637, 743, 430, 689, 940, 919