

# **The Congregation at Prayer**

## **A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer**

*For the week of The Vigil of Christmas*  
**December 24-30, 2023**

### **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. Learn by heart the 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***

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.

#### ***Psalm Psalm 93***

#### ***Recite Memory Work (see back page)***

#### ***Daily Readings***

Sunday, December 24 - Matthew 1:18-25

Monday, December 25 - John 1:1-18

Tuesday, December 26 - Matthew 23:34-39

Wednesday, December 27 - John 21:20-25

Thursday, December 28 - Matthew 2:13-18

Friday, December 29 - Luke 2:1-14

Saturday, December 30 - John 1:1-14

## *Prayers*

O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

Redeemer Lutheran Church	Julianna Felton	Dick Tagtmeyer
The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod	Abby Pohlod	Norma Jean Uffelman
(The Revd) President Matthew Harrison	Laura Rogusz	Juanita Wasson
(The Revd) Bishop Jamison Hardy	Onika Klumpp	(The Revd) David H. Petersen
Concordia Theological Seminary	Jenna Cummings	(The Revd Dr.) Daniel Reuning
(The Revd) Lawrence Rast	Anna Peters	(The Revd Dr.) Geoffrey Boyle
Our Sister Churches	Nicole Warehime	The Revd) Matthew Wietfeldt
The United States of America	Olivia Goodroad	Jane Casey
President Joseph Biden	Steve & Lucy Blakey	Nathaniel Pullmann
Redeemer Classical School	Judy Carter	Harvey Peters
Rosie Burfiend & Josiah Gabriel	Angie Crouch	Peter Pohlod
Savanna Schneider & Theodore Daniel Terry	Maureen DeLassus	Spencer Warehime
Neeley Owen	Juanita Hahn	Conner Walts
Eva Snyder	David & Madeline Her- man	
Isaac Garnett	Gay Kuhn	
Jean Dray	Ed McClure	
Roxana & Dale Boenker	Joan Messman	
	Kurt & Teresa Munding	
	Milo & Nancy Osbun	
	Cynthia Ridley	
	Heidi Sias	
	Allen Spencer	
	Dale Steinke	
	John & Ele Sullivan	

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, Your Son, 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.

## Memory Work

### *The Catechism - The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed*

*What does this mean?*

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

*Hymn of the Week : Now Praise We Christ the Holy One*

Now praise we Christ the Holy One,  
The blessed virgin Mary's Son,  
Far as the glorious sun doth shine  
E'en to the world's remote confine.

### *Memory Verse for the Week*

*For this week:* For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. (*John 1:17*)

*For last week:* But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. (*Galatians 4:4-5*)