The Congregation at Prayer

Daily Devotional & Scripture Reading Suggestions

The week of the

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Families and individuals are encouraged to pray and confess as much of this order of meditation as they are able, or as their family size and ages dictate. If able, the head of the home should lead the family in devotion, with the entire family speaking the words in ***bold****.*

Invocation

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

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. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked 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. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Scripture Reading

The appointed Scripture reading from one of the following schedules or another reading may be read. An excerpt from a devotional book and its supplemental Scripture verses may be read in this place as well. The reading/devotion may be followed by discussion and/or questions & answers for better understanding.

Daily Lectionary

Sunday:	1 Samuel 20:24-42	1 Corinthians 1:1-25
Monday:	1 Samuel 24:1-22	1 Corinthians 1:26 – 2:16
Tuesday:	1 Samuel 25:1-22	1 Corinthians 3:1-23
Wednesday:	1 Samuel 25:23-44	1 Corinthians 4:1-21
Thursday:	1 Samuel 26:1-25	1 Corinthians 5:1-13
Friday:	1 Samuel 28:3-25	1 Corinthians 6:1-20
Saturday:	1 Samuel 31:1-13	1 Corinthians 7:1-24

Family Bible Readings

Sunday:	- - - -
Monday:	Exodus 12:21-30
Tuesday:	Exodus 12:31-42
Wednesday:	Exodus 13:17-14:9
Thursday:	Exodus 14:10-31
Friday:	Exodus 15:1-19
Saturday:	- - - -

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Hymn

One or more verses from Sunday's Hymn of the Day (*) or from one of the following hymns may be sung or spoken.

416*	"How Firm a Foundation"	434	"Lord, You I Love with All My Heart"
402	"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"	442	"Have No Fear, Little Flock"
413	"When in the Hour of Utmost Need"	762	"Consider How the Birds Above"

Reading from the Small Catechism

A section of Martin Luther's Small Catechism may be read with the goal of each family member being able to memorize a sensible portion.

The Creed:	The First Article a
Preschool +	*What is the First Article of the Apostles' Creed?* I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
	What does this mean? I believe that God created me and all that exists,
First Grade +	and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.
Second Grade +	And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life.

Reading from the Lutheran Confessions [1]

An excerpt from the Book of Concord (The Lutheran Confessions) may be read here or at another time during the day.

Monday:	The Apology of the Augsburg Confession	XXVII 45-57	pages	270-271
Tuesday:	The Apology of the Augsburg Confession	58-69	pages	271-273
Wednesday:	The Apology of the Augsburg Confession	XXVIII 1-11	pages	273-275
Thursday:	The Apology of the Augsburg Confession	12-27	pages	276-277
Friday:	Smalcald Articles	Preface 1-15	pages	279-288

Prayer

In addition to the previous Sunday's Prayer of the Day, the following themes may be incorporated into your daily prayer routine.

Sunday:	Pray for the joy of the resurrection; for the fruit of faith nourished by the gospel; and for God to continue to shine the light of his gospel into this world of darkness.
Monday:	Pray for your calling and daily work; for workers and the unemployed, your neighbors, schools, teachers, students, and civil authorities – that all may give glory to God.
Tuesday:	Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted, despairing, suffering and oppressed – that all may know deliverance from sin through Christ.
Wednesday:	Pray for marriage; for families and individuals, communities and neighborhoods – that all may live in harmony and believers may rejoice in being children of God.
Thursday:	Pray for the Christian Church; for pastors, teachers, missionaries, and all who serve Christ; for the spread of the gospel and the proper use of the sacraments.
Friday:	Pray for the sick, the injured, and the dying – that all may know the eternal life that comes through Jesus' death and resurrection.
Saturday:	Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of faith in those who are withering or who have fallen away; for believers as they prepare to receive God's grace.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

[1] Courtesy of Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions © 2005, 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.