

# The Congregation at Prayer

New Hope Lutheran Church, Ossian, Indiana

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of the Festival of the Reformation - beginning October 25, 2020

*Theme: "The Son of God Has Set Us Free from Sin and Death by His Grace"\**

*(Congregation speaks non-italic boldface text)*

## **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.\*\*\***

***Verse:* 2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV): "For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God."**

## **Psalm 96**

### ***The Catechism: The Second Article\*\****

<b>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.</b>	Preschool +
<b><i>What does this mean?</i> 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.</b>	Second Grade +

**Readings for the Week of the Festival of the Reformation**

Day	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>Reformation</b> — <i>The Truth Shall Set You Free</i> —John 8:31-36	
Monday	<i>The Destruction of Jericho</i> —Joshua 6:1-27	Galatians 5:16-26
Tuesday	<i>The Sin of Achan</i> —Joshua 7:1-26	Galatians 6:1-10
Wednesday	<i>The Fall of Ai</i> —Joshua 8:1-29	Galatians 6:11-18
	<b>St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles</b> —John 15:17-21	
Thursday	<i>The Sun and Moon Stand Still</i> —Joshua 10:1-15 (16-28)	Ephesians 1:1-12
Friday	<i>Joshua's Conquests</i> —Joshua 11:15-20; 13:1-7; 18:1-2, 10; 21:43-45	Ephesians 1:12-23
Saturday	<i>The Great Multitude Arrayed in White</i> —Revelation 7:9-17	1 John 3:1-3

**Prayers:** Collect for the Festival of the Reformation: Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**\*\*\*

*The Second Article:* Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your Son to redeem us lost and condemned sinners that we may be your own. Grant that we may always live under You in Your kingdom and serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, **Amen.**

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

**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; 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 Prayer:** 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.**\*\*

**The Hymn of the Week:** “Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” (stanzas 1-2, 4-5) **LSB 556**

<b>Looking forward to the Feast of All Saints</b>		<b>November 1, 2020</b>
<b>Readings:</b>	Revelation 7:(2-8) 9-17 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12	
<b>Theme:</b> “Saints Are Blessed in the Eternal Presence of Christ”*		
<b>Lectionary Summary:</b> “‘A great multitude from all tribes and peoples and languages,’ cry out ‘salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne’ (Rev. 7:9-17). Faith-filled saints from every place and time with unified voices eternally magnify the Lamb of God. As His beloved children, we too, ‘shall see him as he is’ (1 John 3:1-3). Joined with the throng of angels and a myriad of saints, we shall ‘serve him day and night in his temple’ (Rev. 7:9-17). In our earthly tension vacillating between saint and sinner, faith and doubt, sacred and profane, we earnestly seek Jesus to calm our fears, comfort our spirits, and forgive our sins. The Holy Spirit, through faith in Christ propels us forward, fortifying us in Word and Sacrament, to our eternal home. In the midst of our constant struggle as believers, we need to be blessed. And so we are. The poor in spirit, the meek, the hungry, the thirsty, the merciful, the pure, and the persecuted are all blessed and we will most certainly inherit the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 5:1-12).”*		

“The Congregation at Prayer” has been adapted from the model provided by Peter Bender, *Lutheran Catechesis: Catechist Edition: A Comprehensive Guide to Catechesis for a Lutheran Congregation* 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Sussex, WI: Concordia Catechetical Academy, 2011), 21-22 and the September 1, 2019 version at [peacesussex.org/downloads](http://peacesussex.org/downloads) (accessed 9/17/2019) as well as Peter Bender’s Master Schedule for 2020-2021 academic year found at [www.lutherancatechesis.org/resource/](http://www.lutherancatechesis.org/resource/) (last accessed 10/21/2020).

\*Themes and lectionary summary provided by [www.lcms.org/worship/lectionary-summaries](http://www.lcms.org/worship/lectionary-summaries).

\*\*Catechism format for the Commandments adapted from the Lutheran Catechesis Learn-By-Heart Edition of Luther’s Small Catechism (Sussex, WI: Concordia Catechetical Academy, 1998). Translation of Luther’s Small Catechism: *Luther’s Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. Used with permission. [www.cph.org](http://www.cph.org).

\*\*\*Apostles’ Creed and Collect of the Day provided by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.