

The Congregation at Prayer

New Hope Lutheran Church, Ossian, Indiana

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the week of the Second Sunday in Advent (Populus Zion)

Beginning December 6, 2020

*Theme: “The Lord Comes on the Last Day”**

(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: Matthew 24:27, 44 (ESV): “[Jesus said] ²⁷‘For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.... ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’”

Psalm 102:1-13

The Catechism: The Lord’s Prayer – Fourth Petition**

Give us this day our daily bread.	<i>Preschool +</i>
What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.	<i>First Grade +</i>
What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing shoes, house, home, land, animals, money good, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.	<i>Second Grade +</i>

Readings for the week of the Second Sunday in Advent

Day	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Advent 2—The Coming of the Son of Man—Luke 21:25-36	
Monday	<i>Gabriel Appears to Zachariah—Luke 1:5-25</i>	<i>Daniel 9:20-27 2</i>
Tuesday	<i>The Annunciation of Our Lord—Luke 1:26-38</i>	<i>Samuel 7:1-17</i>
Wednesday	<i>Advent Midweek: Romans 15:4-13</i>	
Thursday	<i>The Visitation—Luke 1:39-56</i>	<i>Micah 5:2-5a</i>
Friday	<i>The Nativity of St. John the Baptist—Luke 1:57-80</i>	<i>Isaiah 40:1-11</i>
Saturday	Advent 3—Comfort My People—Isaiah 40:1-11	<i>1 Corinthians 4:1-5</i>

Prayers: *Collect for the Second Sunday in Advent:* Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.*****

The Lord's Prayer (Fourth Petition): Heavenly Father, thank You for providing everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body. Lead us to realize that You provide our daily bread and to receive this daily bread with thanksgiving. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

The following: Terry, Lori, Tristan, Jenna, Nathan Bauermeister, Tina Bauermeister; Nate, Jessica, Eli, Parker, Chace, and Henry Behning; Tina and Lauren Bodner; David, Michelle, Bryce Bowman.

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: “*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*” (stanzas 1-2)

LSB 347

Looking forward to the Third Sunday in Advent (Gaudete)

December 13, 2020

Readings: *Isaiah 40:1–8 (9–11)*
 1 Corinthians 4:1–5
 Matthew 11:2–10 (11)

Theme: “*John the Baptizer Prepares the Way for the Lord*”*

Lectionary Summary: “The voice of the Baptizer cried out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord . . .’ (Isa. 40:1). John called the people to be made ready for the Messiah’s coming through repentance, for ‘all flesh is grass’ (Isa. 40:6). Now He asks from prison, ‘Are you the one who is to come . . .?’ (Matt. 11:2). Jesus’ works bear witness that He is. The sick are made well; the dead are raised, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. Their iniquity is pardoned; they have received from the Lord’s hand double forgiveness for all their sins. The ‘stewards of the mysteries of God’ (1 Cor. 4:1) still deliver Christ’s overflowing forgiveness to the poor in spirit, comforting God’s people with the word of the Gospel which stands forever. This Gospel produces rejoicing among all those who believe.”**

“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* 2nd Edition (Sussex, WI: Concordia Catechetical Academy, 2011), 21–22 and the September 1, 2019 version at 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/ (last accessed 12/02/2020).

*Themes and lectionary summary provided by www.lcms.org/worship/lectionary-summaries.

**Catechism format for The Lord’s Prayer 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.

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