

Daily Prayer

Use this booklet at home to aid in your personal or family devotions.

Collects of the Day

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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; 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.

Luther's 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 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.

Scripture Readings

In preparation for next Sunday's worship, the following passages from scripture and the Book of Concord may be read.

Readings for Epiphany

Monday:

Old Testament: Isaiah 60:4-11

Tuesday:

Psalm 72:1-15

Wednesday:

New Testament: Ephesians 3:1-12

Thursday:

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Friday:

Book of Concord Reading:

"In a person who makes atonement, two things are required. First, there should be a Word of God from which we certainly know that God wants to pity, and listen to, those calling upon Him through this

atonement maker. There is such a promise about Christ, “Whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He will give it to you” (John 16:23). There is no such promise about the saints. Therefore, consciences cannot be completely confident that we are heard by the invocation of the saints. This invocation, therefore, does not spring from faith. We also have the command to call upon Christ:

Come to Me, all who labor. (Matthew 11:28)

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of Him shall the nations inquire. (Isaiah 11:10)

The people of Tyre will seek Your favor with gifts, the richest of the people. (Psalm 45:12)

May all kings fall down before Him. (Psalm 72:11)

May prayer be made for Him continually. (Psalm 72:15)

That all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. (John 5:23)

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God our Father . . . comfort your hearts and establish them. (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

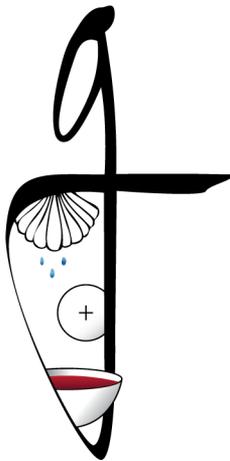
“What commandment, what example, can the adversaries produce from the Scriptures about the invocation of saints? The second requirement for an atonement maker is that his merits are shown to make satisfaction for other people. They are divinely given to others, so that through them, just as by their own merits, other people may be regarded as righteous. For example, when any friend pays a debt

for a friend, the debtor is freed by the merit of another, as though it were by his own. So Christ's merits are given to us so that, when we believe in Him, we may be regarded as righteous by our confidence in Christ's merits as though we had merits of our own.

"From both of these—the promise and the giving of merits—arises confidence in mercy. Such confidence in the divine promise, and likewise in Christ's merits, should be promoted when we pray. For we should be truly confident, both that for Christ's sake we are heard and that by His merits we have a reconciled Father."

Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Article XXI, 17-20: The Invocation of Saints.

All passages from the Book of Concord are quoted from *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, CPH, 2006.



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
EUGENE, OREGON