

Daily Prayer

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

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Monday:

Old Testament: Micah 6:1-8

Tuesday:

Psalm 15

Wednesday:

New Testament: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Thursday:

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Friday:

Book of Concord Reading:

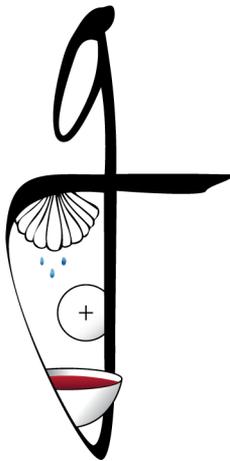
...Now Christ's body can never be an unfruitful, empty thing that does or profits nothing. Yet, no matter how great the treasure is in itself, it must be included in the Word and administered to us. Otherwise we would never be able to know or seek it.

Therefore also, it is useless talk when they say that Christ's body and blood are not given and shed for us in the Lord's supper, so we could not have forgiveness of sins in the Sacrament. Although the work is done and the forgiveness of sins is secured by the cross (John 19:30), it cannot come to us in any other way than through the Word. How would we know about it otherwise, that such a thing was accomplished or was to be given to us, unless it were presented by preaching the oral Word (Romans 10:17; 1 Corinthians 1:21)? How do they know about it? Or how can they receive and make the forgiveness their own, unless they lay hold of and believe the Scriptures and the Gospel? But now the entire Gospel and the article of the creed—I believe in...the holy Christian Church...the forgiveness of sins, and so on—are embodied by the Word in this Sacrament and presented to us. Why, then, should we let this treasure be torn from the Sacrament when the fanatics must confess that these are the very words we hear everywhere in the Gospel? They cannot say

that these words in the sacrament are of no use, just as they dare not say that the entire Gospel or God's Word, apart from the Sacrament, is of no use.

Large Catechism, Part V, 30-32: The Sacrament of the Altar

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



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
EUGENE, OREGON