

# Daily Prayer

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

## Collect of the Day

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

##### **Monday:**

Old Testament: Isaiah 58:3-9a

##### **Tuesday:**

Psalm 112:1-9

##### **Wednesday:**

New Testament: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12(13-16)

##### **Thursday:**

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

## **Friday:**

Book of Concord Reading:

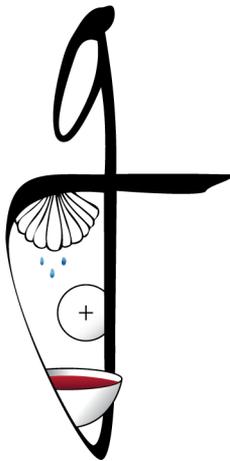
*...Our would-be wise, “new spirits” assert that faith alone saves, and that works and outward things do nothing. We answer, “It is true, indeed, that nothing in us is of any use but faith, as we shall hear still further.” But these blind guides are unwilling to see this: faith must have something that it believes, that is, of which it takes hold (2 Tim. 1:13; Titus 1:9) and upon which it stands and rests (1 Cor. 2:5). So faith clings to the water and believes that in Baptism, there is pure salvation and life. This is not through the water (as we have stated well enough), but through the fact that it is embodied in God’s Word and institution, and that God’s name abides in it. Now if I believe this, what else is it than believing in God as the One who has given and planted His Word (Mark 4:14) into this ordinance and offers to us this outward thing by which we may gain such a treasure?*

*Now, these “new spirits” are so crazy that they separate faith and the object to which faith clings and is bound, even if it is something outward. Yes, it shall and must be something outward, so that it may be grasped by our senses and understood, and by them be brought into the heart. For indeed, the entire Gospel is an outward, verbal preaching (Rom. 10:17; 1 Cor. 1:21). In short, what God does and works in us He intends to work through such outward ordinances. Therefore, wherever He speaks—indeed, no matter what direction or by whatever means He speaks—faith must look there. It must hold to that*

*object. Now here we have the words “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved” (Mark 16:16). What else can these words refer to but Baptism, that is, to the water included in God’s ordinance? Therefore, it makes sense that whoever rejects Baptism rejects God’s Word, faith, and Christ, who directs us to Baptism and binds us to Baptism.*

*Large Catechism, Part IV, 28-31: Baptism*

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



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