The Family Altar

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer in the Christian Home

For your life in Christ the Week of the Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
October 12–18, 2026

How to use this resource: Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able or as your family size and ages dictate. You will need your Bible, a Catechism, and an LSB Hymnal. Other resources named within may enrich your meditation.

Begin

Invocation

The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Hymn of the Week

LSB #870 "Now That the Daylight Fills the Sky" (vv. 1–4)

Recite

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 of the Week: *Mark 10:6–8*

"But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh."

Meditate

Psalm: *60-Day Psalm Schedule*

	Mon.	***Tues.***	***Wed.***	***Thurs.***	***Fri.***	***Sat.***	***Sun.***
Morning	1, 2	5	8, 9	10	14, 15	18	19, 20
Evening	3	4, 6	7	11, 12	13	16, 17	21

Daily Bible Stories

Day	**Week 7: Old Testament Stories**
Monday	Isaac Blesses Jacob – Genesis 27:1–29
Tuesday	Esau Does Not Receive the Blessing – Genesis 27:30–45
Wednesday	Heaven Is Opened at Bethel – Genesis 27:46–28:22
Thursday	Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel – Genesis 29:1–30
Friday	The Children of Jacob – Genesis 29:31–30:24
Saturday	Look Ahead to Sunday's Readings (see last page)
Sunday	Attend Divine Service

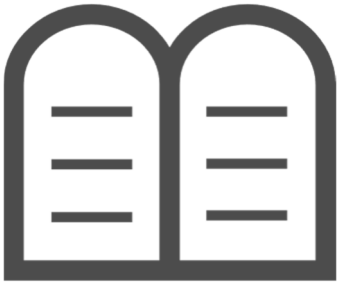
Daily Lectionary Readings

October 12	Deut 11:1–25, Matt 12:1–21
October 13	Deut 11:26—12:12, Matt 12:22–37
October 14	Deut 12:13–32, Matt 12:38–50
October 15	Deut 13:1–18, Matt 13:1–23
October 16	Deut 14:1–2, 22–23, 28–29;15:1–15; Matt 13:24–43
October 17	Deut 15:19—16:22, Matt 13:44–58
October 18	Deut 17:1–20, Matt 14:1–21

Study

The Catechism

Participants may choose to study the catechism at their own pace or follow along with the selected portion of the catechism for the week.



The 6th Commandment
See p. 6 of the Learn by Heart Catechism

Catechism In-Depth
1991 Catechism: Questions #55–58
2017 Catechism: Questions #65–77

Pray

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

Collect for the Week:

Almighty and merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep from us all things that may hurt us that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever You would have us do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

Monday: Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace. **Tuesday:** Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins. **Wednesday:** Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods. **Thursday:** Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood. **Friday:** Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying. **Saturday:** Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts. **Sunday:** Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.

Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Close

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son,
and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
Amen.

Observing the Church Year

***Liturgical Color(s) of the Week**: Green; Red*

Green – The color of growth. During this season we grow and mature in our understanding of Jesus and His teachings.
Red – The color of fire and blood. Red symbolizes the gift of the Holy Spirit and the blood of the martyrs.

Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations This Week

NOTE: The following resources contain great summaries of the observances of the church year
1. TDP– "Treasury of Daily Prayer"
2. CS– "Celebrating the Saints"

October 17 – Ignatius of Antioch, Pastor and Martyr (TDP p. 822; CS p. 186)
October 18 – St. Luke the Evangelist (R) (TDP p. 826; CS p. 188)

Looking Forward to Sunday

St. Luke, Evangelist
Readings: Isaiah 35:5–8; 2 Timothy 4:5–18; Luke 10:1–9

St. Luke, Evangelist
The Lord bids us to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into His harvest (Luke 10:2). The fields look more like deserts, filled with jackals (Isa. 35:6–7), and the Lord sends His laborers out as lambs in the midst of wolves. But Christ's Word of "Peace" heals the sick and brings the very kingdom of God near to those who hear it (Is 35:5; Luke 10:3–9). St. Luke, the beloved physician (Col. 4:14), did the work of an evangelist. He diligently prepared both a Gospel, the history of Christ's work in the flesh before His ascension, and the Acts of the Apostles, the history of His continued work among His Church. Luke and his Scriptures are a gift from this ascended Lord (Eph. 4:8–12), written for Theophilus and for all who love His appearing (2 Tim. 4:5–8). Tradition suggests that Luke was one of the seventy-two sent out ahead of Jesus, two by two. Luke proved himself to be a faithful companion throughout St. Paul's missionary journeys, through many trials and crosses, and even to Rome, where he alone was with Paul.