The Family Altar

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer in the Christian Home



For your life in Christ the Week of the Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity
November 9–15, 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 #679 "Oh, How Blest Are They" (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: *John 16:33*

"'I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.'"

Meditate

Psalm: *60-Day Psalm Schedule*

	Mon.	***Tues.***	***Wed.***	***Thurs.***	***Fri.***	***Sat.***	***Sun.***
Morning	78	80	82, 84	85	88	89	91
Evening	79	81	83	86	87	90	93

Daily Bible Stories

Day	**Week 11: Old Testament Stories**
Monday	Joseph Becomes the Prince of Egypt – Genesis 41:37–57
Tuesday	Joseph's Brothers Journey to Egypt to Buy Food – Genesis 42:1–24
Wednesday	Joseph Feeds His Brothers and Sends Them to Their Father – Genesis 42:25–38
Thursday	Benjamin Returns with His Brothers to Egypt – Genesis 43:1–34
Friday	Joseph's Cup Is Found in Benjamin's Sack – Genesis 44:1–17
Saturday	Look Ahead to Sunday's Readings (see last page)
Sunday	Attend Divine Service

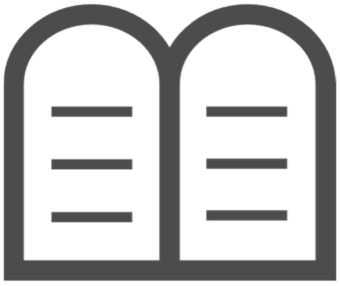
Daily Lectionary Readings

November 9	Jer 22:1–23, Matt 25:1–13
November 10	Jer 23:1–20, Matt 25:14–30
November 11	Jer 23:21–40, Matt 25:31–46
November 12	Jer 25:1–18, Matt 26:1–19
November 13	Jer 26:1–19, Matt 26:20–35 *Rev 13:1–18*
November 14	Jer 29:1–19, Matt 26:36–56 *Rev 14:1–20*
November 15	Jer 30:1–24, Matt 26:57–75 *Rev 15:1–8*

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 Close of the Commandments
See p. 7 of the Learn by Heart Catechism

Catechism In-Depth
1991 Catechism: Questions #69–85
2017 Catechism: Questions #93–102

Pray

Kyrie

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

Lord's Prayer

Collect for the Week:

O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that from the bonds of our sins, which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; 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*

Green – The color of growth. During this season we grow and mature in our understanding of Jesus and His teachings.

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"

November 9 – Martin Chemnitz (birth), Pastor and Confessor (TDP p. 896; CS p. 204)
November 11 – St. Martin of Tours, Pastor (TDP p. 903; CS p. 206)
November 14 – Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler and Confessor of Christ (TDP p. 912; CS p. 208)

Looking Forward to Sunday

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity
Readings: Isaiah 51:9–16; Colossians 1:9–14; Matthew 9:18–26

The Strength of the Lord Is Our Salvation from Sin, Death, and Darkness
A shroud of darkness engulfs us. Sin, death, and disease threaten to sever us from life's fullest measure. Without new life in Christ Jesus, there would be no light to dissipate, dispel, or curb grief and sadness. But Jesus has qualified us "to share in the inheritance of the saints of light," delivering us from the dark domain (Col. 1:9–14). "I have put my words in your mouth and covered you in the shadow of my hand ... You are my people" (Is. 51:9–16). The presence of Christ, in word, wine, bread, and water, confronts our sinful nature with forgiveness. In the sacraments, God claims us to be His very own children, creating and sustaining our faith. So in Christ, we humbly receive the words, "your faith has made you well" (Matt. 9:18–26). On the last day God will surely awaken us also from slumber in resurrection glory.