

**The Congregation at Prayer**  
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
*Second Sunday in Advent*  
*December 4<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>*

***The Order of Meditation and Prayer***

*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. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

**Theme:** We Await Christ's Return in Glory.

***Invocation***

**In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

***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: Isaiah 40:1-2***

“Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.”

**Catechism:**

***“The Sacrament of Holy Baptism”***

***How can water do such great things?***

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God’s word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

“He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trust-worthy saying.” (Titus 3:5-8)

***Collect for the Second Sunday in Advent:***

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn***

**"Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" #345 Stanzas 1 & 4**

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!  
“Christ is near” we hear it say.  
“Cast away the works of darkness,  
All you children of the day!”

So, when next He comes in glory  
And the world is wrapped in fear,  
He will shield us with His mercy  
And with words of love draw near.

*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.**

*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.**

*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.**

“[We teach, believe, and confess] That the divine and human natures in Christ are personally united, so that there are not two Christs, one the Son of God, the other the Son of man, but that one and the same is the Son of God and Son of man, (Luke 1:35; Rom. 9:5).”

*Formula of Concord, Epitome, VIII.5*

### ***Readings for the Week***

| <b>Day</b> | <b>Reading</b> |
|------------|----------------|
| Monday     | Hymn #334      |
| Tuesday    | Daniel 7:1-28  |
| Wednesday  | Daniel 8:1-27  |
| Thursday   | Daniel 9:1-19  |
| Friday     | Daniel 9:20-27 |
| Saturday   | Hymn #334      |

### **In Our Prayers this Week:**

Judy Braun

Continuing Prayers: Lodeen Clausen, Dawn Crosier, Loren Daubendiek, Leonard Esch, June Martin

Missing: Ann Kelley

---

***Looking forward to Third Sunday in Advent***

***December 11, 2016***

***Hymns:*** 347, 345, 343, 516, 602, 333

***Lessons:*** Isaiah 40:1-8; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5; Matthew 11:2-10

**Hymn of the Week** "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" #345