

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Pentecost 22
October 26-31, 2026

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 permit. Learn by heart the verse and catechism.*

Invocation: In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Speak the Apostles' Creed.

Verse: Psalm 31:1 – *“In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.”*

Hymn of the Week: Lutheran Service Book #676 *“Behold a Host, Arrayed in White”*

Readings for the Week: *[The readings for Thursday-Saturday are the Scriptures for this coming Sunday.]*

Monday	Micah 3:5-12	<i>Why is repentance the proper attitude of a Christian in good times and in bad? How is the mercy of God constant through all times?</i>
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 4:1-12	<i>What is the will of God? Whose work is this: ours or God's? Why? How is it accomplished in us? Why does this matter?</i>
Wednesday	Matthew 23:1-12	<i>Why did Jesus tell people to listen to the Pharisees? What was the problem with the Pharisees? Does this still happen today? Why?</i>
Thursday	Revelation 7:2-17	<i>What <u>two</u> groups of people does John see in this vision? Where are they? How are they different? How the same?</i>
Friday	1 John 3:1-3	<i>How does the Father show and give His love to us? Why is knowing God necessary for knowing His children?</i>
Saturday	Matthew 5:1-12	<i>How are those God calls blessed different than who the world calls blessed? Why? How and why do blessing and joy go together?</i>

The Catechism – Baptism: What does such baptizing with water indicate? [Part 1] It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Collect for the Week: Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Prayers: Please pray for . . .

- + yourself and for all in need (remembering especially those on our prayer list).
 - + God's blessing, wisdom, and guidance for our congregation's Board of Elders.
 - + Cambodian Lutheran Church, for God's wisdom, blessing, guidance, and provision.
 - + God's blessing, guidance, and provision for the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society.
- Conclude with the Lord's Prayer and Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.*

Now joyfully go about your day (or to bed) in good cheer, child of God!

In our prayers this week, we remember:

Melody and Mary Hansen, for continued health and strength.

Desmond (friend of Yee-Peng), and **Dennis** (Brie's father), recovering from surgery.

Kyle, John and Billy (friends of Mike), **Kyle** (Kyle Wright's son), **Christina** (friend of the congregation and former attendee), **Tricia** (Mickey's neighbor), **Joel** (friend of the Johnsons), for continued healing and recovery.

For all with cancer, for Your strength, faith and hope, and endurance in their treatments: **Elizabeth Libby, Susan Kunkel, Susan** (Kyle's mother), **Mari** (friend of Lena), **Britton and Tim** (John's cousins), **Katie** (friend of Whitney), **Jeremy** (Jacob's brother), **Anthony** (friend of Pastor), **Erika, Brad, Rita, and Pam** (relatives and friends of Mickey), **Linda** (Mickey's sister), and **Kristi, Jerry, Adriana, and Kristen** (friends of the Killians).

Amanda, Susanna and Klara (cousin and friend of Caroline), **Adrienne** (Logan's sister), **Heather** (Melody's sister), and their babies, for safe and healthy pregnancies and deliveries.

Joseph and Joanne, Mary Ann, Barbara (Laurie's mother), and all elderly and homebound.

Suress (friend of Elizabeth), in need of a kidney transplant; and **Charlie** (Eric's friend), for health and peace.

Ava (friend of Grace Libby), **Leander, Melanie** (friend of Caroline), **Rene** (friend of Randy and TJ), **Jude and Tobias** (friends of Nancy), **Timothy** (friend of Marcus), **Kristoffer** (Lena's son), and **Jason** (friend of Elizabeth), for protection, peace, hope, strength, and faith.

Jonathan Malekzadeh, Lena, Greta (Lena's mother), **Jacque** (Mickey's sister), **Heidi** (Michael Vondal's fiancé), and **Nikki** (niece of Kathy) for strength and continued health.

The Vondal, Wing, Vigil, and Nus families for Your blessing, protection, strength, and faith.

Beth and Josh (friends of the Killians), **Sahilis** (Viviana's sister), **Scott** (friend of Scott Killian), **Thomas** (Angela's brother), **Traci** (friend of Elizabeth), **Dorothy and Mackenzie, and their families**, for unity, protection, peace, and faith.

Leslie, Dorris, and their children (from our Spanish Bible Study) for protection and faith, and for Your wisdom and guidance for the future.

Fatma (friend of our church), **Lindsey** (TJ's friend's daughter), **Suress, Huan, Joylyn, and Sandy** (friends of Elizabeth), and **Tamim and his family** (friends of the Malekzadeh family), for the gift of faith.

For our adopted missionaries: **Rev. Chris and Jenny Yang** (Taiwan), the **Wolf family** (Africa), **Rev. Rob Kieselowsky** (Philadelphia), and **Rev. Charles Ferry** (Eurasia), for blessing, provision, wisdom, and guidance.

For our seminary students: **Rowan Turner** (4th year), **Peter Ventimiglia** (2nd year), **Nathaniel Hall** (Keisers' son-in-law, on vicarage), **Erik Preus** (vicarage), and **Thomas Malmstrom** (4th year).

For our catechumens: **Greta Bowser, Liana Johnson, Grace Libby, Joelene Royster, and Etta, William, and Eloise Spencer.**

For our college students: **Joanna Douthwaite, Erik Eidsmoe, Nathaniel Faunce, Ben Galloway, Ryan Hertel, Anna Kautz, Christie Keiser, Henry Magee, Caleb and Eli Malekzadeh, Emelyn Royster, Tristan Price, Joshua Vigil, Jocelyn Vondal, and David Yang.**

For those serving our country in the military: **Jacqueline Teixeira, Nathaniel Faunce, Juliana Wing, Zechariah Vigil, and John Boling and his son Daniel** (friends of Mickey).

Members and friends in prayer this week: **Joseph and Joanne Malekzadeh**

For all who have placed their hope and trust in the name of Your beloved Son, but especially for those Christians in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Kenya, Sweden, Finland, the Sudan, and other countries, who endure serious and difficult persecution, even unto death.

For the Lord to bless **our mission church, Hope Lutheran Mission, in Purcellville, and our look into a possible Classical Lutheran School in central/western Fairfax County.**

+ + +

Remember to pray for our church officers, board members, and teachers:

President: Scott Killian
Vice President: Rob Douthwaite
Recording Secretary: Caroline Trundle
Treasurer: Logan Hansen
Financial Secretary: Dave Fields
Executive Board, Member-at-Large: John Schatz
Board of Elders: Jay Hertel (Chair), Scott Killian, Logan Hansen
Board of Evangelism and Outreach: Kathy Kielmeyer (Chair) and Nancy Nus
Church Technology Council: Michael O'Connor, Rob Douthwaite, Jay Hertel, and Jonathan Malekzadeh
Building Committee: Rob Douthwaite, Jay Hertel, Kathy Kielmeyer, and Scott Killian
Investment Committee: Logan Hansen and Scott Killian
Commission on Mercy: Grace Killian and Caroline Trundle
Sunday School Teachers: Scott and Grace Killian
Pastor's Assistant: Grace Killian

About this Sunday: The Festival of the Reformation
Order of Service: Divine Service 5 (page 213)

The Son of God Has Set Us Free from Sin and Death by His Grace

“Wisdom is justified by her deeds” (Matt. 11:19), and the true Wisdom of God, Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son, has justified us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, that we might eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and *“remain in the house forever”* (John 8:35). He is *“a friend of tax collectors and sinners”* (Matt. 11:18–19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel *“to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people”* (Rev. 14:6), *“the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law”* (Rom. 3:21), *“that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus”* (Rom. 3:26). And by the hearing of that Gospel of Christ Jesus, *“whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith”* (Rom. 3:25), *“you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free”* (John 8:31–32).



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This Week at Saint Athanasius / Hope Lutheran Mission

TODAY	Hope Lutheran Mission Divine Service, 2:00 pm
Monday-Friday	Morning Prayer on the Web, 7:00 am
Wednesday, October 28	Online Bible Study, 7:00 pm Evening Prayer @ PHC, 9:30 pm
Friday, October 30	Assist Pregnancy Center Vision Banquet
Sunday, November 1	<i>The Feast of All Saints</i> Youth Catechesis, 8:00 am Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 am Divine Service, 10:15 am Pot Luck Lunch Fellowship, 11:30 am

Next week's hymns: 677, 676, 633, 675, 679, 672

Next Sunday we will celebrate the Feast of All Saints. Wear white!

Midweek Bible Study this week on Wednesday at 7pm. Hope to see you then!

Assist Pregnancy Center Vision Dinner: Final Chance! Our congregation is sponsoring a table at this annual banquet this Friday, October 30th. We want you to join us! Find out more about how we can support their work in saving babies, helping mothers, and strengthening families. Speak to Pastor, Grace Killian, or Caroline Trundle **TODAY** for more information or to reserve your seat.

Daylight Saving Time Ends: Remember to turn your clocks **BACK** one hour this coming Saturday night as daylight saving time ends.

Special Offering: All through November, we will be gathering special offerings for our seminary students to help pay for winter quarter expenses. Thanks once again for your generosity!

Potluck Luncheons are the first Sunday each month to give us some time to fellowship and eat together on a more regular basis. So please mark your calendars and plan to stay a bit on **Sunday, November 1st!** For this month, bring a dish to share that is **an old loved and treasured family recipe**.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets: We're again providing Thanksgiving food for five families in our area in need. Slips with the food that is needed will be available starting November 1st. **Food is due back at church by November 15th at the latest.** Thanks for helping again this year and showing the love of Christ.

Life Thought: "Today God continues to defend and aid His people, those who trust in His Son as their Savior. God is ever with us. He preserves His Word and Church despite the constant attack of the devil, the unbelieving world, and false teachers. God provides for all our needs of body and soul, even in times of great need and conflict. God is our refuge. His Word endures forever. His grace and power never fail." *From "Meditations on Favorite Scriptures: Devotions for a Year" – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Paths to Lutheranism Series . . . Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to stories of guests who have come to Lutheranism from Islam, Mormonism, Atheism, Agnosticism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, Pentecostalism and more. You'll find the series at issuesetc.org/pathstolutheranism.

Opportunity for Service: The boards and committees of our church keep everything running smoothly for us through the year. Bills, contracts, budgets, planning, coordination - they handle all this for you. But we could always use new folks to help. If this is something that might interest you, talk to our president, Scott Killian to find out more.

Opportunity for Study: From time to time Pastor conducts an adult catechesis class. This is for folks who would like to become members of our congregation and haven't yet been confirmed. But these classes are the perfect opportunity for you to join us and refresh what you learned before. They are offered on our WebEx video conferencing service. Watch for when the next class will be offered and give it a try!



Create cards to bring some cheer to a cancer patient. Be one of **“Phil’s Friends!”** See Caroline Trundle for more information.

Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Events

November 1	The Feast of All Saints Reception/Celebration for Baptism of Mary Rose Hansen
November 14	Youth Group (and parent!) hike @ Hemlock Overlook Park, 9:00a
November 25	Eve of National Thanksgiving Divine Service
December 6	Annual Congregational Meeting and Luncheon