

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Pentecost 13
August 24-29, 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 26:8 – “O Lord, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.”

Hymn of the Week: Lutheran Service Book #531 “Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus”

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

Monday	Psalm 26	Have you “trusted in the Lord without wavering?” Who has? How can the words of this psalm be true for you?
Tuesday	Proverbs 3:1–8	Commemoration of St. Bartholomew, Apostle. How does God’s Word give life? How does it help us see ourselves rightly? How does it direct our paths?
Wednesday	Revelation 6:9–11	Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist (Saturday). How are the souls of the martyrs precious to Jesus? Are there more to come? Why? Should we be afraid of this? Why or why not?
Thursday	Jeremiah 15:15–21	What does it mean for the Lord to “remember” you? Does He ever forget you? Why does it sometimes seem so?
Friday	Romans 12:9–21	List all the things mentioned here by Paul that love does! Can you do all these things? Who has Jesus given you to help you?
Saturday	Matthew 16:21-28	What does it mean to “take up your cross?” Is this easy or hard? Why? What do we gain by losing our life? How?

The Catechism – The Lord’s Prayer: The Fourth Petition [part 1]: Give us this day our daily bread. *What does this mean?* God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

Collect for the Week: Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same 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 keyboardists and musicians.
 - + the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine, for God’s wisdom, blessing, guidance, and provision.
 - + God’s blessing, guidance, and provision for Concordia Luth. Theo. Seminary, St. Catherines, ON.
- 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:

Rachel (Kyle Wright's daughter) having surgery tomorrow.

Kyle (Kyle Wright's son) recovering from surgery.

Martha (former member), **Bretton**, and **Rachel**, for healing, strength, and peace.

Kyle, John and Billy (friends of Mike), **Christina** (friend of the congregation and former attender),

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, Mary Ann, 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).

Melody, Amanda, Katrina (Anna's sister), **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; **David** (Marcus' father) for safety; 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.

Kim and Dan (friends of Ben) for their upcoming marriage.

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, Caleb Bradley, Liana Johnson, Grace Libby, and Etta, William, and Eloise Spencer.**

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

The people of Ukraine and Russia, for peace, protection, and an end to the war, and for God to provide for those separated and displaced, especially the children.

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: **Ben Fox**

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 Kieltmeyer (Chair) and Nancy Nus

Church Technology Council: Michael O'Connor, Rob Douthwaite, Jay Hertel, and Jonathan Malekzadeh

Building Committee: Rob Douthwaite, Jay Hertel, Kathy Kieltmeyer, 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 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Service: Divine Service 4 (page 203)

The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Son of the Living God

Jesus asked His disciples: *"But who do you say that I am?"* (Matt. 16:15). The question is also put to us: Who do you say that He is? Flesh and blood do not reveal this to us, but by the ministry of the Gospel, the Father in heaven reveals His Son to us on earth, who has become flesh and suffered death for our salvation. Thus, we believe and confess that He is *"the Christ, the Son of the living God"* (Matt. 16:16). As He died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification, He looses us from all our sins and preserves our life within His Church, against which even *"the gates of hell shall not prevail"* (Matt. 16:18–19). His salvation is forever, and His righteousness *"will never be dismayed"* (Is. 51:6). He comforts us with the Gospel in His Church, so that *"joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song"* (Is. 51:3). Therefore, *"according to the measure of faith that God has assigned"* (Rom. 12:3), we also offer ourselves *"as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God"* (Rom. 12:1) through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



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This Week at Saint Athanasius / Hope Lutheran Mission

TODAY	Hope Lutheran Mission Divine Service, 2:00 pm
Monday, August 24-26	<i>Pastor away at Lutheran Haven</i> <i>Board of Trustees Meeting</i>
Monday-Friday	Morning Prayer on the Web, 7:00 am
Sunday, August 30	<i>The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 am Divine Service, 10:15 am

Next week's hymns: 913, 531, 636, 716, 728, 837

NO Online Bible Study this week while Pastor is away. See you Sept 2nd!

Traveling this Summer? Don't forget to go to Church on Sunday wherever you are! If you need help finding a church where you will be, Pastor is happy to help. And please remember to bring back a bulletin with you! We get good ideas from other things churches are doing and how they do them. Thanks!

Seminarian Offering Month is this month! It's not too late to contribute. Thank you for your generosity in supporting our seminary students, Rowan and Peter. Whether you give in the plate or online, make sure to specify your donation is for Seminarian support. Thanks!

Potluck Luncheons will be 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, September 6th**! For this month, **please bring a dish that reflects your ethnic heritage** – German, Slovak, Spanish, English – whatever! And stay tuned for future themes for the next few months!

Life Thought: "The One who bore our griefs and carried our sorrows is now seated in sovereign authority over all things. He is not pacing the floor of heaven, wringing His hands. He is reigning. And because He reigns, we can have courage and peace even when our world seems like it's unraveling before our very eyes." *Rev. Brian W. Thomas – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Be Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind . . . Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: Freedom from Shame; Christians & Anxiety; Encouraging Early Marriage & Childrearing; Mission Outreach to Indigenous Communities in Canada and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or a podcast provider.

Opportunity for Service: A time of food and fellowship after Church every Sunday is an important time for our congregation to get to know and care for one another. We are always in need of folks to bring some refreshments for this time. This is an easy way for you to help and serve! It doesn't have to be much or fancy, and you can team up with others as well. Can you help in this way? Speak to Angela Keiser to sign up or for more information.

Opportunity for Study: Memento is a fraternity of men in our congregation (and throughout the LCMS) that study Scripture together and encourage and support one another in biblical discipline in an effort to be better fathers, husbands, and men. All men of the congregation (18 years of age or older) are welcome to join us. Speak to any member of the Board of Elders or Pastor for more information.



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

August 2-30	Seminarian Offering Month
August 24-26	Pastor at Lutheran Haven Board of Trustees Meeting
September 6	Potluck Luncheon after Church <i>Bring a dish that reflects your ethnicity!</i>
September 12	Youth Group @ Roysters, 6:00-8:00 pm
October 4	Baby Shower for Melody and Logan Hansen
October 30	Assist Pregnancy Center Vision Banquet