

## **The 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.

## **Luther's Morning and Evening Prayers from the Small Catechism (choose one, depending on the time of day)**

In the name of God the Father, Son +, and Holy Spirit. Amen.  
I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

In the name of God the Father, Son +, and Holy Spirit. Amen.  
I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

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### **Looking forward to next Sunday**

**The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany - February 5, 2012**

**Theme: True Power: The Authority of Jesus' Words and Works**

**Deuteronomy 18:15-20** – *The Lord will raise up a greater prophet than Moses who will speak with authority. God expects his word to be taken seriously .*

**Hebrews 3:1-6** – *Jesus is worthy of greater honor than Moses. He has given us sinners greater honor in the gospel than we could ever have by our own works.*

**Mark 1:21-28** – *Jesus' words and works display his authority as he teaches and drives out an evil spirit.*



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## *Growing in Grace*

*Home Devotions*

*For the Third Week  
after Epiphany*

*January 30 - February 4, 2012*

**Theme for the week:  
"Jesus Calls Changes Hearts & Lives"**

*Jesus shows his glory in the kind of people that he calls to serve him and in using the gospel to make them willing to follow him. To all comes the call to follow him with a willingness to abandon everything should faithfulness require it. The Holy Spirit bids us have a mindset that has forsaken everything, even when we are not required to do it.*

*The general call to discipleship is a call that envelopes the whole of life, not just the Sunday morning part. That God does not always require the sacrifice of everything should not dull our hearts to the reality that we should be ready to make just such a sacrifice. The call of Christ to follow him is the call to see him as our all in all. It is only the glorious power of the gospel that will make it possible for us to learn the lesson.*

*This week's Bible verse reminds us that the Lord takes care of those he has called to himself. The Catechism portion, the third part of confession, directs us to the commandments in order for us to understand what sins we need to confess. The lessons show us examples of people called into the Lord's service. We see hearts and lives are affected by that call.*

*Growing in Faith, Living in Hope, Serving in Love  
... All to the Glory of God*

## 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.*

### **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.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

### **Bible Verse of the Week**

**Psalm 37:25** - I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

### **The Catechism: Confession**

Third: How can we recognize these sins?

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, employer, or employee? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you hurt anyone by word or deed? Have you been dishonest, careless, wasteful, or done other wrong?

## **Readings & Prayers for the Third Week after Epiphany**

### **Monday**

1 Kings 19:19-21 - Elisha left everything to follow the Lord and be his prophet

*Discuss:* Elisha left everything (his business, his possessions, his friends) and followed Elijah to be the next prophet? In what way does God call us to "leave everything"?

*Risen Savior family to pray for:* Rick Hinkson

*Also in our prayers:* We ask God for faith to live in the promises of our baptism; for all who are unemployed; for the salvation of our neighbors

### **Tuesday**

Acts 13:1-5 - The Holy Spirit calls Saul and Barnabas into his service

*Discuss:* What would be exciting about Saul and Barnabas trip? What would be a little scary? For what does this section of Scripture lead you to pray?

*Risen Savior family to pray for:* Londa Hollis, Elijah & Andrew

*Also in our prayers:* We pray for any who are addicted and despairing; for good and peaceful government; for those struggling in a particular sin

### **Wednesday**

Mark 1:14-20 - Jesus called his first disciples & proclaimed, "Repent, & follow me!"

*Discuss:* What is admirable about the way the first disciples followed Jesus? What of their thoughts and actions would you want to imitate?

*Risen Savior family to pray for:* Elva & Sharon Hooper

*Also in our prayers:* We pray for marriage and family, that all husbands and wives, parents and children live according to God's Word; for parents who must raise their children alone; for our neighborhoods

### **Thursday**

Psalm 37:7-9 - Be still, wait, and hope in the Lord

*Discuss:* Why is patience so hard to put into practice? How can you get better at it?

*Risen Savior family to pray for:* Linda Huckabee

*Also in our prayers:* We pray for the Christian Church and her pastors; for our missionaries; for our schools, colleges, and seminary

### **Friday**

Meditations or look to this next Sunday's readings on the following page

*Discuss:* What is one thing you will want to remember from today's reading?

*Risen Savior family to pray for:* Dave & Masami Jenkins, Lorin

*Also in our prayers:* We pray for the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the whole world; for the sick and the dying

### **Saturday**

Meditations or look to this next Sunday's readings on the following page

*Discuss:* What is one thing you will want to remember from today's reading?

*Risen Savior family to pray for:* Gary & Dora Johnson, Ursula, Maria

*Also in our prayers:* We pray for the Lord to keep us faithful to him until death; for the renewal of those who are weakening in their faith or have fallen away; for faith to grow in worship on Sunday (tomorrow)