



Saint Athanasius at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer in the homes of our families.

The Last Week of the Church Year †
November 25-30, 2024

2024-25 School Year Theme Verse

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

~ Colossians 3:16

This Week: This coming Sunday we begin a new Church Year with the season of Advent. Advent means *coming* and blends together three “comings” of Jesus: when He came in the flesh, as He comes to us now in His Word and Sacraments, and His coming again on the Last Day. And all of this is **for you!** To save you and give you a home with Him forever. This week we hear of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, where He goes to die. This is why He came and this is how He will provide a new and eternal life for us - through His own death and resurrection. So we can prepare for the Last Day by looking back to the cross and know that all that God promised to do for us He did and will surely do.

This week (Saturday) is also the commemoration of Saint Andrew, Apostle. His day is always the first “saint day” in the Church Year because he was the first to follow Jesus. But he didn’t just follow Jesus, he then went and got his brother and brought him to Jesus too! What a great example for us. Let’s bring some of our friends and family to Jesus like Andrew did.

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 for the week, as well as the theme verse (above) for the year.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Confess the Apostles’ Creed

(Consult the “Companion Sheet” for the words of this Creed.)

Read Psalm 25:1-10 *(see next page)*

Scripture for the Week to Read and Discuss

| | | |
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| Monday | John 1:35-42a | <i>Commemoration of St. Andrew, Apostle (Saturday). When Andrew heard what John the Baptist said about Jesus, what do He do? Why? What does it mean that Jesus is the “Lamb of God?” What did Andrew do next? Why? How can we do the same?</i> |
| Tuesday | Psalm 25:1-10 | <i>What does it mean to “lift up your soul” to the Lord? (Hint: v. 2 helps explain that!) What are the paths of the Lord? Where do they lead? Are these paths easy or hard? What do we ask God here to remember and <u>not</u> remember?</i> |
| Wednesday | Luke 21:25–36 | <i>What will the last days of earth be like? How does Jesus describe them? When we see these signs, what does Jesus say we should do? Why is it important to stay awake and alert?</i> |
| Thursday | Jeremiah 33:14–16 | <i>God always fulfills his promises! What promise is being talked about here? How did God fulfill it? Who is being talked about? How is He “our righteousness?”</i> |
| Friday | 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13 | <i>What did Paul do for the believers he was writing to here? Why did he pray for? Why do we need to pray this for each other?</i> |
| Saturday | Luke 19:28–40 | <i>Did Jesus look like a king entering Jerusalem? What kind of king was He? Why? What did He come to give to His people? Do we need these things today?</i> |

Learn by Heart

Scripture: Psalm 25:6 – “Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.”

Catechism: The Creed - The First Article: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. *What does this mean?* I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason, and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house, and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. If this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

Prayers

Collect for the Week: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Pray for Liana and Ava.

Pray that all people have a good and safe Thanksgiving, and for our Lord to watch over and keep safe all who are traveling.

Pray the Lord's Prayer, and either the Morning or Evening Prayer.
(Consult the "Companion Sheet" for the words of these prayers.)

Psalm 25:1-10



- ¹To you, | O LORD,*
I lift | up my soul.
- ²O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be | put to shame,*
let not my enemies exult | over me.
- ³Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;*
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.
- ⁴Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
teach me | your paths.
- ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my sal- | vation;*
for you I wait all the | day long.
- ⁶Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,*
for they have been | from of old.
- ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans- | gressions;*
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, | O LORD!
- ⁸Good and upright | is the LORD;*
therefore he instructs sinners | in the way.
- ⁹He leads the humble in | what is right,*
and teaches the humble | his way.
- ¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and | faithfulness,*
for those who keep his covenant and his testi- | monies.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Hymn for the Week: 332 Savior of the Nations, Come

(Go to our website for a link to the music to listen to and sing along with this hymn)



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobrien, 1973
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
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