

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Feast of Pentecost
May 25-30, 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: Genesis 1:27 – “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”

Hymn of the Week: Lutheran Service Book #604 “I Bind unto Myself Today”

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

Monday	John 3:16–21	<i>Why did God give His only Son? Why did we need Him to? What do we do without Him? What can we do with Him?</i>
Tuesday	Isaiah 32:14–20	<i>What will happen when the Spirit is poured out? What had gone wrong that will be set right? What can we look forward to?</i>
Wednesday	Romans 12:9–16	<i>How can we possibly do all these things? Who did live this way? Does this kind of life start with us or is it given to us? How?</i>
Thursday	Genesis 1:1—2:4a	<i>How did God create? What does this teach us about God? What was created last? Why? What does this teach us?</i>
Friday	Acts 2:14a, 22–36	<i>How does Peter preach Jesus? What does He say about Him? How was everything God did purposeful? Is this still true today?</i>
Saturday	Matthew 28:16–20	<i>What was given to Jesus? What did Jesus want His disciples to give? What promise did He also give them? Why?</i>

The Catechism – The Creed: The Second Article [part 2]: And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary . . . *What does this mean?* I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, . . .

Collect for the Week: Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. 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 Building Committee.

+ the Lutheran Church in the Philippines, for God’s wisdom, blessing, guidance, and provision.

+ God’s blessing, guidance, wisdom, 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:

Ken, John, Kyle, Christina (friend of the congregation and former attender), **Tricia** (Mickey's neighbor), **Joel** (friend of the Johnsons), for continued healing and recovery.

Rachel, and **Scott and Dick** (relatives of Kathy) for upcoming surgeries.

For all with cancer, for Your strength, faith and hope, and endurance in their treatments: **Elizabeth Libby, Susan Kunkel, Fawn, Mary Ann, 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), and **Ashley** (Michelle's daughter-in-law), 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), **Emily** (Rob's co-worker), **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), and **Rev. Rob Kieselowsky** (Philadelphia), for blessing, provision, wisdom, and guidance.

For our seminary students: **Nathaniel Hall** (Keisers' son-in-law), **Erik Preus**, and **Thomas Malmstrom** (on vicarage).

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

For our college students: **Joanna Douthwaite, Erik Eidsmoe, Nathaniel Faunce, Ben Galloway, Vincent Heuyer, Anna Kautz, Caleb Malekzadeh, Tristan Price, Timothy Strand, 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: **Gabriel Behrendt**

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 Feast of Pentecost

Order of Service: Divine Service 1 (page 151)

The Risen Lord Jesus Pours Out the Holy Spirit

The Lord took *“some of the Spirit”* that was on Moses *“and put it on the seventy elders”* of Israel (Num. 11:25), and they *“prophesied in the camp”* (Num. 11:26). In the same way, our risen Lord Jesus poured out His Holy Spirit at the Feast of Pentecost — the 50th day and the “Eighth Sunday” of Easter. When *“a sound like a mighty rushing wind”* and *“tongues as of fire appeared”* and rested on each of the 12 apostles, *“they were all filled with the Holy Spirit”* and proclaimed *“the mighty works of God”* (Acts 2:2–4, 11). The Lord Jesus grants this same Spirit to His Church on earth to proclaim Him glorified on the cross and risen victorious from the grave for us sinners. From His open heart, our crucified and risen Lord pours out His Holy Spirit in *“rivers of living water”* (John 7:38) and invites everyone who thirsts to come to Him and drink freely (John 7:37). Through this life-giving work of the Holy Spirit, we hear our pastors *“telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God”* (Acts 2:11), and *“everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”* (Acts 2:21).



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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
Monday-Thursday	<i>Pastor away on mini-vacation</i>
Tuesday, May 26	School Chapel, 8:30 am
Thursday, May 28	School Chapel, 8:30 am
Saturday, May 30	Youth Catechesis, 8:00 am
Sunday, May 31	<i>The Festival of the Holy Trinity</i> Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 am Divine Service, 10:15 am

Next week's hymns: 500, 604, 621, 504, 507, 954, 578

NO Midweek Bible Study this week while Pastor is away on a mini-vacation. We'll jump back in to Acts chapter 20 next week See you then!

Seminarian Nathaniel Hall and family will be visiting next week (May 31st), and Seminarian Hall will be our liturgist during the service. Be sure to say hi and wish them well as they head off to Green Bay, WI for his vicarage.

(Home)school Chapel: *Last week!* Join us live on our YouTube channel at 8:30 am on Tuesday and Thursday. After this week, you can go back and watch our archive of school chapels on our YouTube channel. Each lectionary year has a separate playlist, so they will still be available if they are helpful to you to spend time in the Word of God and prayer.

Premier Conference for Lutheran Laity . . . You're invited to attend the 2026 Issues, Etc. "Making the Case" Conference, Friday, June 12 and Saturday, June 13, at Concordia University Chicago. Speakers include: Mollie Hemingway of The Federalist, LCMS President Matt Harrison, Megan Basham of The Daily Wire, Pastor Will Weedon of The Word of the Lord Endures Forever, Erin Hawley of Alliance Defending Freedom and YouTuber Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller. Registration is \$160 and includes three meals. Reduced room rates, including on-campus dorms, are available. For more information, visit issuesetc.org or call (618) 223-8385.

Life Thought: "In grief, the world often feels empty. The absence of loved ones weighs heavily, leaving our days feeling hollow and incomplete without their presence. And yet, Scripture tells us that in these moments of deep sorrow, God draws near. He does not stand at a distance, waiting for us to be strong enough to move on with our life. He comes to us, holds us in our brokenness, and carries us when we cannot stand." *Rev. M.L. Smith, Director of International Missions of Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Congregational Meeting: As a follow-on to our Congregational Summit in March, we're having a congregational meeting on Sunday, June 14 after the service. We aim to continue the conversations about our future, and we expect it will last 60-90 minutes. And yes, we'll provide food! Please plan to stay, even if you were unable to attend in March – we want all to participate. For more information, please speak with Jay Hertel or Scott Killian.

Opportunity for Service: Children are important to Jesus and so they are important to us. They need to learn about Jesus. Our Sunday School teachers are great, but they always need classroom helpers and sometimes need a break from teaching so that they can attend Bible Class and be fed. Like kids? Maybe you could volunteer in this way! Speak to Scott or Grace Killian if you're interested.

Opportunity for Study: Every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8:30 (during the school year), Pastor offers "Homeschool Chapel" for our school-aged children and families. But you can join us, too! We pray the Office of Matins together. Every Tuesday we consider a part of the Catechism, and every Thursday we hear the Gospel for the coming Sunday. It takes about 25 minutes and is offered live on our YouTube channel. But if you cannot join us live, you can watch the recording later! Go to <saint-athanasius.org/SchoolChapel.html> for the service documents for the week and for the link to our YouTube channel.



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

May 24-28	Pastor away on mini-vacation
May 31	Seminarian Nathaniel Hall visit
June 30 – July 3	Youth attending Higher Things Conference, Saint Louis, MO