



✠ DAILY PRAYER ✠

Trinity 23
15 – 21 November 2020

Hope Lutheran Church
St. Louis, Missouri

This guide is offered to assist families, individuals, and small groups in the simple forms of daily prayer included in Lutheran Service Book (pages 294-298). Use the form in LSB appropriate for the time of day and follow the weekly resources in this guide for hymns, readings, and prayers. Pray and confess out loud as much from this order as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate.

✠ ORDER FOR PRAYER

Morning	LSB, p. 295	Early Evening	LSB, p. 297
Noon	LSB, p. 296	Close of the Day	LSB, p. 298

✠ HYMN *LSB 714 – Who Trusts in God A Strong Abode*

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (from **Daily Lectionary**, LSB, pp. 299-304)

	Old Testament	New Testament
Sun.	Jeremiah 30:1-24	Matthew 26:57-75
Mon.	Jeremiah 31:1-17,23-34	Matthew 27:1-10
Tues.	Jeremiah 33:1-22	Matthew 27:11-32
Wed.	Jeremiah 37:1-21	Matthew 27:33-56
Thu.	Jeremiah 38:1-28	Matthew 27:57-66
Fri.	Daniel 1:1-21	Matthew 28:1-20
Sat.	Daniel 2:1-23	Revelation 18:1-24

✠ APOSTLES' CREED – *LSB*, inside back cover

✠ LORD'S PRAYER – *LSB*, inside back cover

✠ PRAYERS

Collect for Trinity 23

O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that from the bonds of our sins, which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

✠ FESTIVALS & COMMEMORATIONS

19 November – Elizabeth of Hungary

✠ CONCLUDING PRAYERS – Order of Prayer in *LSB*

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BOOK OF CONCORD READING

Trinity 23

RENDERING TO CAESAR AND TO GOD

All political authority, orderly government, laws, and good order in the world are created and instituted by God. Therefore, we Christians may without sin exercise political authority. This from the Apology of the Augsburg Confession on “Political Order” (XVI:1-3):

In [the Augsburg Confession] we confessed “that it is permissible for a Christian to hold public office, to render verdicts on the basis of imperial laws or other established laws, to prescribe just punishments, to engage in just wars, to serve in the military, to enter into legal contracts, to own property, to take an oath when magistrates require it, or to contract marriage.” In short, we confessed that legitimate civil ordinances are good creations of God and divine ordinances in which a Christian may safely take part. This entire topic on the distinction between Christ’s kingdom and the civil realm has been helpfully explained in the writings of our theologians. Christ’s kingdom is spiritual, that is, it is the heart’s knowledge of God, fear of God, faith in God, and the beginning of eternal righteousness and eternal life. At the same time, it permits us to make outward use of legitimate political ordinances of whatever nation in which we live, just as it permits us to make use of medicine or architecture or food, drink, and air. Neither does the gospel introduce new laws for the civil realm. Instead, it commands us to obey the present laws, whether they have been formulated by pagans or by others, and urges us to practice love through this obedience.

(Kolb, R. 2000. *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*. Fortress Press: Minneapolis)

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK'S DIVINE SERVICE

Last Sunday of the Church Year

22 November 2020

This “mini-Bible study” is included for your use in personal devotions or with friends during the coming week as you prepare to hear God’s Word next Sunday. The questions provided after each of the Scripture texts are intended for your thought and reflection.

OLD TESTAMENT – Isaiah 65:17-25

1. Read verses 17-19. What does God promise to create? In light of this, what does Isaiah tell us to do in these verses?
2. Read verses 20-23. What are the various descriptions of God’s promised new creation? How are they different from anything we are used to now?
3. Read verses 24-25. How do these verses describe the peace of God’s new creation?

PSALMODY – Psalm 45

1. How is the king described in this Psalm? Who is that King? See Matthew 25:31-36 and Revelation 19:11-16.
2. In the words of the Psalm, what will the King do? How will His people respond?

EPISTLE – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1. How does the “day of the Lord come”? Based on this Scriptural fact and teaching, how should you treat predictions about the Lord’s return?
2. What is your comfort when the “day of the Lord” comes in this way?
3. What exhortation does St. Paul give you in these verses to be ready for the coming Day of the Lord’s return? What kind of strength and protection do you have as you wait?

HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 25:1-13

1. How does Jesus’ parable describe the ten virgins (that is, the two groups)? What set the first group apart from the other one?
2. For what were the virgins waiting? When did it come? Which group of virgins was ready?
3. What reward awaited those virgins who were ready? What consequence awaited the virgins who were *not* ready?
4. How do you remain ready? See Hebrews 10:23-25; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. What do you do in the meantime? See 1 Peter 3:15-17.