



✠ DAILY PRAYER ✠

Septuagesima

28 January – 3 February 2024

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 827 – Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling*

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

	Old Testament	New Testament
Sun.	Zechariah 6:1-7:14	Romans 16:17-27
Mon.	Zechariah 8:1-23	2 Timothy 1:1-18
Tues.	Zechariah 9:1-17	2 Timothy 2:1-26
Wed.	Zechariah 10:1-11:3	2 Timothy 3:1-17
Thu.	Zechariah 11:4-17	2 Timothy 4:1-18
Fri.	Zechariah 12:1-13:9	Titus 1:1-2:6
Sat.	Zechariah 14:1-21	Titus 2:7-3:15

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

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

✠ PRAYERS

Collect for Septuagesima

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we, who justly suffer the consequence of our sin, may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; 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

2 Feb. – **The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord**

✠ CONCLUDING PRAYERS – Order of Prayer in *LSB*

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BOOK OF CONCORD READING

Septuagesima

OUR ETERNAL ELECTION

Our gracious God desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4). The teaching of God's eternal election is a most comforting teaching. This reading comes from the Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration, XI:26-27:

[God] has revealed to us and “made known to us the mystery of his will,” and has accomplished it through Christ, that it may be proclaimed (Eph. 1[:9, 10]; 2 Tim. 1[:9–11]).

However, this is revealed to us, as Paul says in Romans 8[:29, 30]: “Those whom God has foreseen, chosen, and preordained, he has also called.” Now, God does not call apart from means. He calls through the Word, which he has commanded us to preach, the word of repentance and the forgiveness of sins [Luke 24:47]. St. Paul also testifies to this very thing when he writes, “We are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God” (2 Cor. 5[:20]). The guests whom the king wants to have at his son’s wedding he calls through servants whom he sends out (Matt. 22[:2–14]). Moreover, he called some at the first hour, some at the second, third, sixth, ninth, and even at the eleventh hour (Matt. 20[:1–16]).

(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

Sexagesima ("About 60 Days until Easter")

4 February 2024

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 55:10-13**

1. What does this passage teach you about God's Word? What illustration from everyday life does Isaiah give to make this point?
2. How have you doubted God's Word—its truth or its ability to accomplish what it says?
3. How does this promise about God's Word (that it accomplishes its purpose) encourage you to trust it? To read it more? To hear it more often?

PSALMODY – **Psalms 1**

1. There are only two ways: the way of the blessed man and the way of the ungodly man. According to the Psalm, what characterizes each way?
2. In verse 3, the psalmist talks of "meditating" on God's Word. A good picture for this is that of a lion gnawing at and savoring a piece of meat. How does this picture help you to "meditate" on God's Word?

EPISTLE – **2 Corinthians 11:19-12:9**

1. In this passage St. Paul speaks of his infirmities and trials for the sake of proclaiming Christ. How would you fare if you endured similar hardships?
2. How did the Lord Jesus comfort St. Paul? (Hint: verse 9). How do these words comfort you in time of trial?
3. What insight and strength does 2 Timothy 2:1-4 give?

HOLY GOSPEL – **Luke 8:4-15**

1. In your own words describe the different kinds of soil. Now make sure you know Jesus' own interpretation of the story.
2. How does each soil describe you? That is, how does your listening to God's Word fit into each of Jesus' "categories"?
3. Seek out your pastor to confess your sins of ignoring or being indifferent to God's Word. And there trust the Absolution (God's Word) given you.
4. Which kind of hearing of God's Word does Jesus commend and want? Pray for Him to grant you that kind of hearing!