

# FAITH IN THE WORD

For the week of Sexagesima

February 23 – March 1, AD 2025

**T**he last two petitions of the Lord’s Prayer paint an important picture for us. We are surrounded on all sides by forces that want to steal us away from Christ. There are temptations to sin no matter where we go. Temptations to unbelief. Temptations to covet and try to take what belongs to our neighbor. Temptations to trust in things other than the true God. The devil and the world strew our path with all kinds of allurements and false promises. And our flesh is like a dog desperately trying to pull the leash out of our hands and embrace whatever the devil and the world are offering. There are dangers to our bodies, minds, and souls. There is sickness, war, famine, corruption, raging fires, monstrous hurricanes. The devil is causing as much chaos and destruction as he possibly can because he hates God and anyone who dares to trust in God. That is why Jesus gives us these petitions to pray. We need help and lots of it all the time. We are certainly not strong enough to care for or protect ourselves. We can’t thwart the devil on our own. We can’t stand under the pressures of the world on our own. We can’t get ourselves a crumb of bread unless the Lord God provides for it. Left to our own devices we would utterly fall away from Christ and be lost forever. But God has given you these words to pray because He knows how serious your situation is. He has promised to not only hear these petitions but also to answer them “Yes.” Pray these petitions daily with great earnestness and in the confidence that your Heavenly Father will do exactly as He has graciously promised.

## ***The Catechism***

*As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to the household. 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. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

## ***The Lord’s Prayer – The Sixth and Seventh Petitions***

### ***And lead us not into temptation.***

*What does this mean?* God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

***But deliver us from evil.***

*What does this mean?* We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

## **THE ORDER OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER**

### **INVOCATION**

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

***Psalm 50:15*** – “...and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

### ***Psalm 107***

### **HYMN OF THE MONTH**

***“O God of God, O Light of Light” (LSB 810)***

**<https://youtu.be/GVsJpnYKmUc?feature=shared>**

### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEXAGESIMA**

① SUNDAY	LUKE 8:4-15	
② MONDAY	ACTS 1:15-26	MATTHEW 11:25-30
③ TUESDAY	EZRA 3:1-13	2 PETER 2:1-22
④ WEDNESDAY	NEHEMIAH 1:1-2:6	2 PETER 3:1-18
⑤ THURSDAY	NEHEMIAH 7:73C-8:12	JUDE 1:1-11
⑥ FRIDAY	NEHEMIAH 9:1-38	JUDE 1:12-25
⑦ SATURDAY	1 SAMUEL 16:1-13	1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

## PRAYERS

### COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER

**SUNDAY:** *The joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for our congregation's faithfulness to the Word of God.*

**MONDAY:** *Faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; our calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; government; peace; for the leaders of our congregation.*

**TUESDAY:** *Deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

**WEDNESDAY:** *For marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; parents who must rear their children alone; for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

**THURSDAY:** *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; for our congregation, our pastor and his family.*

**FRIDAY:** *For the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

**SATURDAY:** *For faithfulness to the end; the physically and mentally sick and those who are dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

## IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- For all who serve in public safety as police officers, firefighters, and paramedics, that God would protect them, give them courage in danger, and grant them wisdom as they perform their duties, especially Joshan Savage (police officer), Joe Krizan (firefighter and paramedic), Elisabeth Handgraaf, Jonah Underwood (paramedics).
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Kristie Messer (24), Ben Schwiesow (25), Robin Hauth (28), Tim Boeder (1).
- Baptismal birthdays celebrated this week: Greg Sims (24)
- Jenny Long, who is recovering from cardiovascular surgery.
- Those experiencing unemployment: Matt and Michael.
- Emma Casanova, Susan Dickson, and Brianna Mallon for protection of mother and child in pregnancy.
- Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan, Doug Drawe, Antonia, Deanna, Devin Jackson, Gary Sakko, Greg McClure, Dana Evans, Gaye, Georgette, Dan Kostoff, Jill, Ninette DeYoung, Rachel Preuss, Kristina Wishmeyer, Brandon Rhodes, Todd Hauth, JE Purcell, the Schwiesow family.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

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## LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

### **Quinquagesima – March 2, 2025**

**Catechism:** The Table of Duties: Masters, Servants

**Hymns:** 498, 849, 607, 620, 718, 865, 515

**Readings:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 18:31-43

