

# FAITH IN THE WORD

For the week of the Baptism of Our Lord

January 7 – January 13, AD 2024

**W**e are surrounded by evil at all times. Our flesh is constantly looking for ways to rebel. The world is mercilessly putting temptation in our way and seeking to either draw us away from the faith or silence our confession so that it doesn't have to listen to the truth and be shown its wickedness. The devil tirelessly sets traps before us and stirs up all kinds of afflictions and distractions to abandon our hope in Christ. We must be careful not to confuse the crosses that we bear with evil. Evil is what leads us away from Christ. Suffering can do that. But more often, comfort and ease do that. These things can lead us to imagine that we don't need Christ. They can blind us to our need for salvation and our constant need of the Word of God and the Holy Communion. If our afflictions keep us near to Christ, then they are holy and salutary afflictions which we should receive in thanksgiving and faith. We pray in this petition that God would protect us from anything that would lead us away from Him and give us everything, even crosses, that draw us nearer to Him.

## **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.*

## **Lord's Prayer – Seventh Petition and Conclusion**

### **The Seventh Petition – 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 Conclusion – For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

*What does this mean?* This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

## 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

**Galatians 5:17** – *For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.*

### Psalm 100

### HYMN OF THE MONTH

*"To Jordan Came The Christ, Our Lord" (LSB 406, Stanzas 1, 7)*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8da7RUXNdrq>

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

① SUNDAY	LUKE 2:41-52	
② MONDAY	1 SAMUEL 3:21 – 4:22	PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9
③ TUESDAY	1 SAMUEL 5:1-6:1	PHILIPPIANS 4:10-23
④ WEDNESDAY	1 SAMUEL 6:1-7:1	COLOSSIANS 1:1-8
⑤ THURSDAY	1 SAMUEL 7:2-17	COLOSSIANS 1:9-18
⑥ FRIDAY	JOHN 4:1-30, 39-42	JEREMIAH 2:9-13
⑦ SATURDAY	EXODUS 33:12-23	EPHESIANS 5:22-33

## PRAYERS

### COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 sick and 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

- All those serving as missionaries around the world, especially Pastor Wildauer and Pastor Steele and their families.
- Birthdays: Elaine Graff (9)
- Baptismal Birthdays: Whitney Wueller (10)
- Wedding Anniversaries: Donovan and Nancy Cawood (11)
- For protection of mothers and their unborn children: Lyndsey Slade. (Psalm 139:13)
- Alissa Ulmer, Franklin Fischer, Ethan Sims, Cassandra Tiro, Robert Ulmer.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

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## LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

**Catechism:** Sacrament of Holy Baptism: *What is Baptism? Which is that Word of God? What benefits does Baptism give? Which are these words and promises of God?*

**The Second Sunday after Epiphany – January 14, 2024**

**Hymns:** 498, 402, 644, 636, 406, 655, 404

**Readings:** Exodus 33:12-23; Ephesians 5:22-33; John 2:1-11

