

**Daily Devotions for Home and Family**  
*For the Week of The 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity*  
November 12 through November 18

**[PART III]: III. REPENTANCE**

<sup>36</sup> This repentance is not partial and fragmentary like repentance for actual sins, nor is it uncertain like that. It does not debate what is sin and what is not sin, but lumps everything together and says, “We are wholly and altogether sinful.” We need not spend our time weighing, distinguishing, differentiating. On this account there is no uncertainty in such repentance, for nothing is left that we might imagine to be good enough to pay for our sin. One thing is sure: We cannot pin our hope on anything that we are, think, say, or do.

<sup>37</sup> And so our repentance cannot be false, uncertain, or partial, for a person who confesses that he is altogether sinful embraces all sins in his confession without omitting or forgetting a single one.

<sup>38</sup> Nor can our satisfaction be uncertain, for it consists not of the dubious, sinful works which we do but of the sufferings and blood of the innocent Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>39</sup> This is the repentance which John preaches, which Christ subsequently preaches in the Gospel, and which we also preach. With this repentance we overthrow the pope and everything that is built on our good works, for all of this is constructed on an unreal and rotten foundation which is called good works or the law, although no good work but only wicked works are there and although no one keeps the law (as Christ says in John 7:19) but all transgress it. Accordingly the entire building, even when it is most holy and beautiful, is nothing but deceitful falsehood and hypocrisy.

<sup>40</sup> In the case of a Christian such repentance continues until death, for all through life it contends with the sins that remain in the flesh. As St. Paul testifies in Rom. 7:23, he wars with the law in his members, and he does this not with his own powers but with the gift of the Holy Spirit which follows the forgiveness of sins. This gift daily cleanses and expels the sins that remain and enables man to become truly pure and holy.

<sup>41</sup> This is something about which the pope, the theologians, the jurists, and all men understand nothing. It is a teaching from heaven, revealed in the Gospel, and yet it is called a heresy by godless saints.

<sup>42</sup> Some fanatics may appear (and perhaps they are already present, such as I saw with my own eyes at the time of the uprising)<sup>1</sup> who hold that once they have received the Spirit or the forgiveness of sins, or once they have become believers, they will persevere in faith even if they sin afterwards, and such sin will not harm them. They cry out, “Do what you will, it matters not as long as you believe, for faith blots out all sins,” etc. They add that if anyone sins after he has received faith and the Spirit, he never really had the Spirit and faith. I have encountered many foolish people like this and I fear that such a devil still dwells in some of them.

<sup>43</sup> It is therefore necessary to know and to teach that when holy people, aside from the fact that they still possess and feel original sin and daily repent and strive against it, fall into open sin (as David fell into adultery, murder, and blasphemy),<sup>2</sup> faith and the Spirit have departed from them.

<sup>44</sup> This is so because the Holy Spirit does not permit sin to rule and gain the upper hand in such a way that sin is committed, but the Holy Spirit represses and restrains it so that it does not do what it wishes. If the sin does what it wishes, the Holy Spirit and faith are not present,

<sup>45</sup> for St. John says, “No one born of God commits sin; he cannot sin.”<sup>3</sup> Yet it is also true, as the same St. John writes, “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” ~ The Smalcald Articles, Part III, Art. III:28-35

***The Order of Meditation and Prayer***

*Pray and confess out loud as much from this order as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate.  
Learn by heart the catechism and hymn each week.*

**Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting.  
Amen.

## Psalm – 14

### The Catechism – *Christian Questions with Their Answers*

#### 16. *Why should we remember and proclaim His death?*

First, so we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.

#### 17. *What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?*

His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2; and Ephesians 5.

## Daily Readings:

Sunday, November 12 – Matthew 26:1-19

Monday, November 13 – Matthew 26:20-35

Tuesday, November 14 – Matthew 26:36-56 (*Commemoration of Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler & Confessor of Christ*)

Wednesday, November 15 – Matthew 26:57-75

Thursday, November 16 – Matthew 27:1-10

Friday, November 17 – Matthew 27:11-32

Saturday, November 18 – Matthew 27:33-56

**Meditation** (*If you are using another devotional tool, such as Portals of Prayer, this would be an appropriate place to insert it*)

## Prayers

Almighty God, we implore You, show Your mercy to Your humble servants that we, who put no trust in our own merits, may not be dealt with after the severity of Your judgment but according to Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

O Lord, turn your eyes in mercy towards us...behold, visit, and relieve all Your servants who stand in need of prayer:

St. John's Lutheran Church  
The Lutheran Church-  
Missouri Synod  
The Rev. Matthew Harrison  
The Atlantic District  
The Rev. Derek Lecakes  
Concordia Theological  
Seminary, Ft. Wayne  
The Rev. Lawrence Rast  
Concordia Seminary, St.  
Louis  
The Rev. Dale Meyer  
Concordia College – New  
York  
The Rev. John Nunes  
The Concordia University  
System  
Lutheran Parochial Schools  
Our Sister Churches  
All Pastors, Missionaries,  
and Church Workers  
The United States of  
America  
President Donald Trump  
Governor Andrew Cuomo  
U.S. Military Personnel  
All Fire, Police, and EMS  
workers and volunteers  
Louise Blydenburgh  
Dianne Ferremi  
Richard Meltsner  
Madison Coffey  
William Rossiter

Stacy Harris  
Thelma Stegemann  
Tom Conte  
Marie Conte  
Patrice Vitalino  
Thelma DeJoseph  
Al DeJoseph  
David Bayley  
Suzanne Weil  
Pat Simmons  
Ernie Getzelman  
Jane Simmons  
Andrew Brooks  
Ike Edwards  
James Stegemann  
Marion Werth  
Lorraine Keller  
Larry Dimiceli  
Aline Duval  
John Kelly  
Nancy Merrihue  
Frances Flanagan  
Richard Duffy  
Marge Glass  
Bubby Verspoor  
Irene Jones  
Donald Duval  
Charles Tichy  
Lenny Kiesling  
John Wevers  
Peter DiMartini  
Kendall Lillie  
Julie Crawford

Susan Marotta  
Eboni Marshall  
Nancy Doughty  
Felicia Burke  
Alfred Miller  
Larry Harris  
Patti Fisher  
Gina Blenk  
Rich Frenz  
Philip Tubiolo  
Jayne McCarthy  
Denny Wallart  
Rich Lunigro  
Barbara Reichling  
Ann Harris  
Lenny Hagesether  
Annie Opinante  
Jen Fischer  
Brent Leonard  
Jen Bross  
Shannon Lobe  
Rob Arrasate  
David Columb  
Joan Vigna  
Harold Thilberg  
Bill Ball  
Florence Vollmer  
The Rev. Brian & Kristin  
Noack  
The Rev. Jimmy & Yasuyo  
Coffey  
Alexandria Rappe  
Ann Inoue

Look upon them with your grace and favor; grant them comfort and a sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

### Morning or Evening Prayer

*(Morning)* I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

*(Evening)* I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

### Hymn for the Week – *Preserve Your Word, O Savior*

*LSB #658, st. 3*

Preserve, O Lord, Your Zion,  
Bought dearly with Your blood;  
Protect what You have chosen  
Against the hellish flood.  
Be always our defender  
When dangers gather round;  
When all the earth is crumbling,  
Safe may Your Church be found.

### Closing Blessing

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

### Looking ahead for The Twenty-sixth Sunday after Trinity:

*Daniel 7:9-14*

*2 Peter 3:3-14*

*Matthew 25:31-46*