

**Daily Devotions for Home and Family**  
*For the Week of the First Sunday in Advent*  
November 30 through December 6

**FAITH**

**Chapter 77. If We Would Give Alms to Ourselves, We Must Flee Iniquity; For He Who Loves Iniquity Hates His Soul.**

Those, then, who think that they can by giving alms, however profuse, whether in money or in kind, purchase for themselves the privilege of persisting with impunity in their monstrous crimes and hideous vices, need not thus deceive themselves. For not only do they commit these sins, but they love them so much that they would like to go on forever committing them, if only they could do so with impunity. Now, he who loves iniquity hates his own soul; and he who hates his own soul is not merciful but cruel towards it. For in loving it according to the world, he hates it according to God. But if he desired to give alms to it which should make all things clean unto him, he would hate it according to the world, and love it according to God. Now no one gives alms unless he receive what he gives from one who is not in want of it. Therefore it is said, His mercy shall meet me. ~ *Enchiridion*, Chapter 77

## ***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 – 122**

### **The Catechism – Baptism – Third**

*How can water do such great things?*

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." *Titus 3:5-8*

### **Daily Readings:**

Sunday, November 30 – 1 Peter 2:13-25 (*Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle; suggested add'l reading: John 1:35-42a*)

Monday, December 1 – 1 Peter 3:1-22

Tuesday, December 2 – 1 Peter 4:1-19

Wednesday, December 3 – 1 Peter 5:1-14

Thursday, December 4 – 2 Peter 1:1-21 (*Commemoration of John of Damascus, Theologian and Hymnwriter*)

Friday, December 5 – 2 Peter 2:1-22

Saturday, December 6 – 2 Peter 3:1-18 (*Commemoration of Nicholas of Myra, Pastor*)

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

## **Prayers**

Let us pray...Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father 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. Dien Ashley Taylor; Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne; The Rev. Jon Bruss; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; The Rev. Thomas Egger; The Concordia University System; Lutheran Parochial Schools; Our Sister Churches; All Pastors, Missionaries, and Church Workers; The Rev. Eric Stinnett & Family; The Rev. Dr. Tom Park; The United States of America; President Donald Trump; The U.S. Congress and Senate; The Supreme Court Justices and all judges and magistrates; Governor Kathy Hochul; All State and locally elected officials; U.S. Military Personnel; All Fire, Police, and EMS workers and volunteers; Gail Acker; Lindy Amabile; Peggy Arciero; Emily Arrasate; Rob Arrasate; Hubert Bauer; Jim Baum; David Bayley; Jackie Blydenburgh; Claire Bornholdt; Tara Coppola; Ingrid Chopping; Jackie Cutler & Family; Lucy Decker; Jeanne Demmers; Ed Doepp; Ruth Dorsty; Charlie Erb; Holly Erb; Carol Foth; Anne Grant; Matthew Grau; Michael Hanrahan; Rebecca Helsom; Barbara Helwig; Olivia Hintz; Arthur Holden; The Hole Family; Kelly Housto; Marilyn Jorg; Bill Kopf; Alfred Longhitano; Alex Lopacki; Sue Madsen; Dorothy Mistler; Terri O'Brian; Douglas Pabst; Michael Panarese; Gabrielle Pancir; Bryan Paul; Joe Pinz; Carol Rappolt; Christian Rappolt; Joann Roland; Alice Ryan; Lisa Schantz; Dakota Schmidt; Chuck Scott; Judy Scott; Carol Shaw; Judy Smith; Dina St. Giles; Bill & Deanna Suckow; Gertrude Sutorius; Alessandra Trevisan; Ingrid Vessie; Patrice Vitalino; Jo-Ann Walther; Jack Whitehouse; Alex Wilson; Edward Zerbe

**Armed Forces:** Gregory D'Alessandro; Emma Levine; Phillip Rappe; Brian Williams; Michael John Young

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 – *O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide*

*LSB #355, st. 7*

There shall we all our praises bring  
And sing to You, our Savior King;  
There shall we land You and adore  
Forever and forevermore.

### Closing Blessing

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**L** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

**C** Amen.

### † Look Ahead for Next Week:

*Isaiah 11:1-10*

*Romans 15:4-13*

*Matthew 3:1-12*