

FAITH IN THE WORD

For the week of The First Sunday after Christmas
December 29, AD 2024 – January 4, AD 2025

Words matter. God gave the gift of speech so that we could convey what is true and right and beautiful and good. But so often our sinful mouths are now filled with lies and half-truths. We try to get our brother or sister in trouble. We talk back to our parents. We lie in order to protect ourselves from the consequences of our sins. We spew out all kinds of gossip about people. It is not so with God. When God speaks it is life and it is truth. And one of the most profound things our Lord has ever said are these words which He spoke about the Sacrament of the Altar "...given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." In these few words our Savior not only tells us that His death will atone for the whole guilt of our sin but that in the Lord's Supper we will receive His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of our sin. That is profound! We would never believe that such a thing could be possible. But our faith doesn't rest on what we can understand. It rests on the all-powerful word of our God. With these words and promises our terrified consciences can be swept up out of the darkest despair and into the unfathomable joys of eternal life. God grant that we receive these words with hearty faith and so enjoy the life and salvation that they promise.

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 Ten Commandments – The Eighth Commandment

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor; betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

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 51:17 – The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 25

HYMN OF THE MONTH

“Oh Lord, How Shall I Meet You” (LSB 334)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NC4Ctxw_WKo

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

① SUNDAY	LUKE 2:22-40	
② MONDAY	GENESIS 46:1-7	1 PETER 4:12-19
③ TUESDAY	LUKE 12:35-40	ROMANS 8:31B-39
④ WEDNESDAY	LUKE 2:21	GALATIANS 3:23-29
⑤ THURSDAY	MATTHEW 2:1-12	NUMBERS 24:15-19
⑥ FRIDAY	MATTHEW 2:13-15	1 PETER 4:12-19
⑦ SATURDAY	MATTHEW 2:16-23	JEREMIAH 31:10-17

PRAYERS

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through 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 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

- Those serving in synodical offices, especially Matthew Harrison, Synodical President; Michael Newman, Texas District President; Andrew Whaley, Circuit Visitor, and Ben Gonzales, Mission Strategist. Those serving as elected leaders at Faith Wylie: Gil Daughtrey, Michael Null,, Matt Dickson, Ken Lawrence, James Long, Tim Sheehan, Brad Lowery, James Rose, Brian Hendon, Gil Daughtrey.
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Amanda Rose (30), Mary Jo Daughtrey (31).
- Wedding Anniversaries celebrated this week: Mike and Christina Null (30).
- Pastor Heath as he deliberates the call to serve as Associate Pastor at Faith Plano.
- Sherry, Roberta Lowery's sister, who has been hospitalized.
- Those experiencing unemployment: Matt and Michael.
- Emma Casanova and Brianna Mallon for protection of mother and child in pregnancy.
- Dony Reaves, Chris Purcell, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan, Doug Drawe, Antonia, Deanna, Devin Jackson, Greg McClure, Dana Evans, Rush, Christina Null, Sharon, Gaye, Georgette, Tim Sheehan, the Traugott family, Dan Kostoff, Jill, Ninette DeYoung, Rachel Preuss, Kristina Wishmeyer.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

The Second Sunday after Christmas – January 5, 2025

Catechism: The Lord's Prayer – The Seventh Petition

Hymns: 500, 385, 412, 768, 625, 517 (stz 1,9,3), 383

Readings: Genesis 46:1-7, 1 Peter 4:12-19, Matthew 2:13-23

