

# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

## Jesus' First Miracle Reveals the Glory of God

Exodus 33:12–23; Romans 12:6–16; John 2:1–11

The coming of the Messianic Kingdom means the restoration of creation. The sign of this restoration is that **“the mountains shall drip sweet wine”** (Amos 9:11–15). When the elements of a fallen creation fail and run short at a wedding feast, our Lord Jesus steps in to restore creation and miraculously changes water into an abundance of the



very best wine (John 2:1–11). With this sign, Christ manifests His glory. The **“back of God”** (Exodus 33:12–23) is revealed to those who believe. The hour will come when Jesus will again manifest His glory by taking creation’s curse into His own body to release us from its power. The Bridegroom will give

His life for the Bride (Ephesians 5:22–32), and from His side will flow water and blood, the Holy Sacraments by which she is cleansed and made one with Him. Through this sacrificial love of Christ we are enabled to **“love one another with brotherly affection”** and **“outdo one another in showing honor”** (Romans 12:6–16).

✠ THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY ✠

**INVOCATION** (*make the sign of the holy cross and say*)

In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**THE 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 is seated 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the ✠ life everlasting.

**PSALMODY** (*sing or read out loud each day*)

Psalm 111

**LEARN BY HEART LUTHER’S SMALL CATECHISM:** 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.**

**DAILY READINGS**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Psalm 50	Genesis 45	2 Chronicles 23	Acts 17:16-34
<b>Monday:</b>	Psalm 51	Genesis 46:1-47:12	2 Chronicles 24	Acts 18:1-22
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Psalm 52	Genesis 47:13-26	2 Chronicles 25	Acts 18:23-19:22
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Psalm 53	Genesis 47:27-48:22	2 Chronicles 26	Acts 19:23-20:16
<b>Thursday:</b>	Psalm 54	Genesis 49	2 Chronicles 27	Acts 20:17-21:16
<b>Friday:</b>	Psalm 55	Genesis 50:1-14	2 Chronicles 28	Acts 21:17-23:11
<b>Saturday:</b>	Psalm 56	Genesis 50:15-26	2 Chronicles 29	Acts 23:12-24:27

## PRAYERS

*The following suggestions are offered as an aid in developing the habit of praying for ourselves and others each week:*

**Sunday:** For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by Word and Sacrament.

**Monday:** For faith to live in the promise of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

**Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

**Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to God's Word; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

**Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for deacons, teachers, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

**Friday:** For faithful preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

**Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors as they prepare to administer and for people as they prepare to receive Christ's holy gifts.

Almighty and Everlasting God, who governs all things in Heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

O Lord, look down from Heaven. Behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers: **[insert the names of family members, friends, church members, government officials, those in need, etc.]** Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy. Grant them comfort and sure confidence in You. Defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but ✠ deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

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.

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.

**BLESSING**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Amen.**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT SUNDAY:** *The Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

2 Kings 5:1–15a

Psalm 110

Romans 12:16–21

Matthew 8:1–13

Hymn of the Day

*O Christ, Our True and Only Light*

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