

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

**Ad Te Levavi - First Sunday of Advent**

November 30 – December 6, 2008

## The Church Calendar

### **November 30 – Andrew the Apostle**

Most references to Andrew in the New Testament simply include him on a list of the Twelve Apostles, or group him with his brother, Simon Peter. But he appears acting as an individual three times in the Gospel of John. When a number of Greeks (perhaps simply Greek-speaking Jews) wish to speak with Jesus, they approach Philip, who tells Andrew, and the two of them tell Jesus. Before Jesus feeds the Five Thousand, it is Andrew who says, "Here is a lad with five barley loaves and two fish." And the first two disciples whom John reports as attaching themselves to Jesus ) are Andrew and another disciple (whom John does not name, but who is commonly supposed to be John himself -- John never mentions himself by name, a widespread literary convention). Having met Jesus, Andrew then finds his brother Simon and brings him to Jesus. Thus, on each occasion when he is mentioned as an individual, it is because he is instrumental in bringing others to meet the Saviour.

Andrew is the national saint of Scotland. It is said that Andrew was crucified on a Cross Saltire -- an 'X'-shaped cross. His symbol is a Cross Saltire, white on a blue background. This is accordingly the national flag of Scotland.

***Collect:*** Almighty God, who didst give such grace to thine apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of thy Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give unto us, who are called by thy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

(Taken from James Kiefer's Christian Biographies)

## The Daily Office

V: O Lord, open my lips;

**R: and my mouth will declare your praise**

V: Make haste, O God, to + deliver me;

**R: make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, world without end. Amen.**

### The Readings (Sunday-Saturday)

	<b>Psalmody</b>	<b>Old Testament</b>	<b>New Testament</b>
Sun	123	Isaiah 6:1-7:9	1 Peter 2:13-25
Mon	34:11-18	Isaiah 7:10-8:8	1 Peter 3:1-22
Tue	119:105-112	Isaiah 8:9-9:7	1 Peter 4:1-19
Wed	55:16-23	Isaiah 9:8-10:11	1 Peter 5:1-14
Thu	145:1-9	Isaiah 10:12-34	2 Peter 1:1-21
Fri	49:5-12, 15	Isaiah 11:1-12:6	2 Peter 2:1-22
Sat	56:1-2, 5-11, 13	Isaiah 14:1-23	2 Peter 3:1-18

Optional: Large Catechism Preface-1:48

### The Catechism

#### The Ten Commandments

#### **4. Honor your father and mother.**

*What does this mean?*

**We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.**

#### **5. You shall not murder.**

*What does this mean?*

**We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.**

#### **6. You shall not commit adultery.**

*What does this mean?*

**We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.**

### Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

Hymn

LW26 The King Shall Come

The Lord's Prayer (prayed together)

**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. Amen.**

The Creed (confessed by all)

**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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting . Amen.**

The Litany

V: O Lord, hear my prayer.

**R: And let my cry come to You.**

V: In the day of my trouble I call to you

**R: For You answer me.**

V: Hide Your face from my sins.

**R: And blot out all my iniquity.**

V: Create in me a clean heart, O God.

**R: And renew a right spirit within me.**

V: Do not cast me away from Your presence.

**R: And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.**

V: Restore to me the joy of your salvation.

**R: And uphold me with a willing Spirit.**

V: Because Your lovingkindness is better than life.

**R: My lips shall praise You**

V: Because You have been my help.

**R: Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice.**

V: Teach me Your way, O Lord, and I will walk in Your truth.

**R: Give me an undivided heart that I may fear Your name.**

V: I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart.

**R: I will glorify Your name forever.**

V: May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

**R: May those who love Your salvation always say, Let God be exalted.**

V: Save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

**R: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

V: Hear my prayer, O Lord.

**R: Listen to my cry for mercy.**

### The Collect

Stir up, we beseech Thee, Thy power, O Lord, and come, that by Thy protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Thy mighty deliverance; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

In our prayers: Pastor, Richard Eaches, Jackie Caudill, Doug Thomas, Sam Cooper, Rev. Leonard Riddle

### Luther's Evening Prayer (prayed together)

**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 wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

V: Let us bless the Lord.

**R: Thanks be to God.**

V: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, + and bring us to everlasting life.

**R: Amen.**