

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Week of the Transfiguration of Our Lord
 February 19, 2012 through, February 26, 2012

Catechesis Notes for the Week— This is My body. In the Lord’s Supper Jesus gives us His body to eat and His blood to drink. The Sacrament of the Altar rests upon the Word of God. Jesus’ words give what they say. The power and benefits of the Sacrament are given through the Word. Take away the Word and there is no Sacrament. With the Word, there is a Sacrament, namely, “the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself, for us Christians to eat and to drink.” What role does faith play in the Sacrament? Faith receives what the Word says. Faith believes in what the Word gives. Faith rests upon the promises of God. The essence of the Sacrament, that is, “what it is,” is determined by the Word. This gives faith its certainty. We know we receive the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins, because the Word says so. Faith knows no other certainty but the promises of the Gospel.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

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.

Theme: The Glory of the Lord Is His Sacrificial Loving Service.

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:16

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?

The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

Psalm: 50 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Almighty God, You spoke and the earth was created, and by Your Word you uphold all things. Out of Your holy Church the Word of the Gospel is proclaimed and shows forth Your glory to all the nations. Do not keep silent; call, gather, and enlighten us by Your Word, that we might offer to You the sacrifices of faith and call upon You in the day of trouble with confidence in Your deliverance, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	33	35	37	40	42, 43	45	48, 49	51
Evening	34	36	38	39, 41	44	46, 47	50	52, 53

The Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar—What is the Sacrament of the Altar? Where is this written?

<p>What is the Sacrament of the Altar?</p> <p>It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.</p>	First Grade +
<p>Where is this written?</p> <p>The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write:</p> <p>Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”</p> <p>In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”</p>	Second Grade +
<p>Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”</p> <p>In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”</p>	Kindergarten +

Readings for the week of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	The Transfiguration of Our Lord—Mark 9:2-9	Job 14:1-22	John 6:41-59
Monday	The Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life—Genesis 2:4-17	Job 15:1-23, 30-35	John 6:60-71
Tuesday	Man Eats the Forbidden Fruit—Genesis 3:1-24	Job 16:1-22	John 7:1-13
Wednesday	ASH WEDNESDAY: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	Job 17:1-16	John 7:14-31
Thursday	The Passover—Exodus 12:1-14, 17	Job 18:1-21	John 7:32-53
Friday	The Wedding in Cana of Galilee—John 2:1-11	Job 19:1-12, 21-27	John 8:1-20
Saturday	Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Job 20:1-23, 29	John 8:21-38
Sunday	Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Job 21:1-21	John 8:39-59

Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the week of the Transfiguration of Our Lord:

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** Pray for faith to live in the promises 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:** Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.
- Wednesday:** Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, 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:** Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday:** Pray 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 and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.

In Our Prayers this Week

- Todd and Dawn Fredrich, celebrating their 24th wedding anniversary.
- The family of Judith Ebel, sister of Daniel Schmitt, who mourn her death.
- Sandra Stanley, undergoing treatment for cancer.
- Kevin Kehres, recovering from shoulder surgery.

Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week

“‘Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here” (Stanzas 1-2)

Looking forward to the First Week in Lent	February 26, 2012
<p>Hymns: 438, 656, 547, 418, 521, 600</p> <p>Genesis 22:1-18: The sacrifice of Isaac is a type of Christ’s sacrifice. Abraham’s words proclaim the Gospel: “My son, God will provide for Himself a lamb for a burnt offering.” Indeed, the Father offered up His Son in our place. The very sacrifice that God demanded, He Himself provided. Abraham believed in the promise of the Gospel made to him by the Lord. He believed that Isaac was the son of the promise and that through him God would bring the blessing of salvation to all the nations. He believed that Isaac would live, even if he died, because God promised salvation through Isaac. Indeed, by his willing sacrifice of Isaac according to the Lord’s Word, Abraham confessed faith in the death and resurrection of the Christ, the true Son of the Promise, that was to come.</p> <p>James 1:12-18: God tempts no one. James describes how temptation draws us away from God through our own lust.</p> <p>Mark 1:9-15: Clearly, Jesus is baptized not for His sin but for ours. He takes our sin upon Himself to open the heavens. The Father is well pleased with His beloved Son because He willingly goes forth to the cross as the unblemished Lamb, carrying the sins of the world. Just as the Old Testament scapegoat was driven into the wilderness, carrying the people’s sin, so Jesus our substitute is driven into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan for us. Where we fail in the face of temptation and succumb to sin and rebellion against God, He remained steadfast in the faith and did not flinch in the face of His calling to be our Savior. The angels of God also ministered to Him in the wilderness, even as they minister to us, speaking the Father’s word to Him by which He lived in faithfulness to God and defeated every temptation. He who carries our sin and defeats the devil preaches the Gospel of God’s kingdom to us, saying, “Repent and believe the good news of salvation in my suffering and death for you!”</p>	