

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Week of the Sixth Sunday after Trinity
 July 8, 2018 through July 15, 2018

Catechesis Notes for the Week — The Bible Stories from Mark: In the **Confession of Peter and His Rebuke**, we see the dichotomy within the Christian between faith and unbelief. Within the same man, both were at work. The faith that caused Peter to confess of Jesus, “You are the Christ,” is a miracle of the Holy Spirit. Yet when Peter rebukes Jesus for teaching that suffering and death are what the Christ must do, we see the unbelief that is part of our sinful nature. This is very important for us to know and believe. Part of our cross as Christians is not only the suffering of this dichotomy, but also the daily crucifying of our sinful flesh with all of its unbelief, so that the new man of true faith might daily arise. In the **Transfiguration of Our Lord**, we see the glory of Jesus’ divine nature shining through His flesh. Moses and Elijah appear with Jesus in testimony that He is the Christ in fulfillment of the Law and the prophets of the Old Testament. The same word that the Father spoke at Jesus’ baptism is spoken again just before Jesus sets His face to Jerusalem for His Passion: “This is My beloved Son,” and then the Father adds, “Hear Him!” for now the words and works of Jesus mark the fulfillment of the Old Testament Scriptures. In a **Boy Is Healed**, Jesus shows Himself to be the conqueror of Satan and all demonic powers. Faith is the trust of the heart that receives this victory. The same dichotomy of faith and unbelief was seen in the boy’s father who prays, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” This is our prayer too! And Jesus hears and answers. Jesus’ catechesis in the section, **Who Is the Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven**, highlights that the essence of the ministry is the service of the Lord’s salvation to others and not the service of one’s self. But this is coupled with the powerful promise given to every minister and concerning those to whom they minister: “Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me.” Finally, Jesus warns of the things that cause offense to the Gospel, lest faith in Christ be undermined or damaged, and that we must hold fast to the Gospel (the Salt), which alone is the source of peace and salvation from God.

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: Christ Is Our Righteousness!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Ephesians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

Psalm 19 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord Jesus, You are the Sun of righteousness with healing in Your wings. Enlighten our darkened understanding by Your holy Word. Enkindle our hearts and mold our wills to walk in faith, love, and hope every day of our lives. Let the light of Your Gospel shine to the nations that sit in darkness and preserve Your Church to the day of Your glorious coming to judge the living and the dead, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	80	82, 84	85	88	89	91	92	95, 96
Evening	81	83	86	87	90	93	94	97

Readings for the Week of the Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy OR use → → → → → →	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	The Greater Righteousness—Matthew 5:17-26	Judges 3:7-31	Acts 13:42-52
Monday	The Confession of Peter and His Rebuke—Mark 8:27—9:1	Judges 4:1-24	Acts 14:1-18
Tuesday	The Transfiguration of Our Lord—Mark 9:2-13	Judges 6:1-24	Acts 14:19-15:5
Wednesday	A Boy Is Healed—Mark 9:14-32	Judges 6:25-40	Acts 15:6-21
Thursday	Who Is the Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?—Mark 9:33-50	Judges 7:1-23	Galatians 1:1-24
Friday	Catch Up on Mark Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Judges 13:1-25	Galatians 2:1-21
Saturday	Catch Up on Mark Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Judges 14:1-20	Galatians 3:1-22
Sunday	Sunday’s readings	Judges 15:1-16:3	Galatians 3:23-4:11

The Catechism: The Lord's Prayer— Third Petition

<p><i>What is the Third Petition?</i> Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.</p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.</p>	First Grade +
<p><i>How is God's will done?</i> God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.</p>	Third Grade +

Prayers: Catechism Prayers, In Our Prayers at Peace, and the Collect for the Week

Prayer on the Third Petition of the Lord's Prayer

Heavenly Father, Your good and gracious will is to keep and preserve us in the true faith. Your good and gracious will is done without our prayer and does not depend upon us. For this we give You thanks. Forgive us for not trusting that You promise to preserve us in Christ. Break and hinder every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow Your name or let Your kingdom come. Strengthen and keep us firm in Your Word and faith until we die; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

*Christian McMiller, Jessica Franklin, Evon Ingraham, Mark Meyle, John Franklin, serving in the military.
 The family of Joan Grono, wife of Richard, who mourn her death.
 Eamonn Ferguson, to be ordained next Sunday, July 15
 Gilbert Leon, hospitalized for cancer treatment.
 Cindy Hirtz, hospitalized at Waukesha Memorial Hospital
 Bob Zaretzke in therapy.
 Emily Landry, receiving treatment for Lyme disease.
 Phyllis, sister of Rosie Koplung, in hospice care.*

Collect for the Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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

Hymn of the Week

"All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall"

Looking forward to the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

July 15, 2018

Hymns: 561, 819, 572, 918, 631, 652

Genesis 2:7-17: *The prophet Moses teaches us that we were created by God from the dust of the earth. Our life comes from the Word of God. The Tree of Life gave life according to God's promise, but man chose to turn away from that tree and go his own way. This is the origin of all sin and death. Christ redeems us from the curse by being lifted up on the tree of the cross.*

Romans 6:19-21: *St. Paul teaches that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Mark 8:1-9: *Jesus is the bread of life. In the miracle of the feeding of the 4,000, He shows Himself to be the Savior of all people and the source of all life and salvation. The numbers in this story are not insignificant. Numbers in the Bible have familiar usages. The number seven is often God's number of perfection and is often associated with the Holy Spirit, His seven-fold gifts of grace, and the Church which is formed from every tribe and nation of people. The number four is often associated with the earth, sometimes spoken of as having "four corners"—north, south, east, and west—from which all the people of Christ's Church will come. The number ten is often the number of God's providential completeness in His dealings upon this earth. He does just the right things in just the right ways, etc. The number three refers to the Holy Trinity, Holy Baptism, and the baptismal character of our faith, that we were buried with Him who was raised the third day. Therefore, by the use of the number three and the number seven multiplied ten times over, this miracle teaches that Jesus is Lord, the Holy One of God, the perfect and only savior of sinners who has provided salvation to the four corners of the earth.*