

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Tenth Sunday after Trinity
August 5, 2018 through August 12, 2018

Catechesis Notes for the Week —*This Week’s Bible Stories:* During Holy Week, the disciples were proud to discuss the stones and buildings of the Temple in Jerusalem. In the **Destruction of the Temple Is Predicted**, Jesus presents to them the sobering prediction that the Temple they would be admiring would soon be destroyed. He uses the prediction of the Temple’s destruction and the circumstances surrounding it to prepare them and the Church for the events that will precede His Second. There will be false prophets, false Christ’s, wars and rumors of wars, famine, pestilence, and persecution. These are the beginnings of “birth pangs” leading up to Christ’s Second Coming, but the Gospel must first be preached to all the nations. The Church and her ministry must never be afraid in the face of these signs to preach the Gospel of Christ, the crucified, because it is the Holy Spirit Himself who is preaching the Gospel through the Church to a fallen world. **The Great Tribulation** includes not only the abomination of the Temple’s defilement by the Roman armies, but more specifically of the defilement of the greater Temple, Jesus Himself in His crucifixion. With this in mind we can see how so many of the events surrounding the crucifixion of Our Lord will also surround **the Second Coming of Christ**. “The sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light.” There was darkness from noon until 3 o’clock in the afternoon and the earth quaked when Jesus died upon the cross. As they saw Jesus suspended between heaven and earth upon the cross, so we will see Him come again in the clouds. The “Great Tribulation” of the events of Jesus’ Passion prepare us for the “Great Tribulation” of the later days in which the Church will suffer persecution and martyrdom, even as Jesus did. In the face of these events, the Church is to simply live by faith in the promises of Christ alone. Prayer and the study of God’s Word strengthen our faith to face the events of the latter days without fear. The Lord’s Word stands sure: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.” At the conclusion of Jesus’ catechesis on the end times from Mark’s Gospel, our Bible Stories turn to the Gospel of John and the account of **the Woman Caught in Adultery**. We may not know what it was that Jesus wrote on the ground, but we do know that He stood in the breach between this woman and those who did not care for her but simply used the Law to accuse and condemn her. Jesus did not set aside the Law and its condemning force when He forgave this woman. He bore the full brunt of the Law’s condemnation for the sinner. His motivations were far different from the motivations of those who simply wanted to destroy her. Jesus was motivated by love.

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 the Only Source of Our Peace

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 6:51

**I am the living bread which came down from heaven.
If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever;
and the bread that I shall give is My flesh,
which I shall give for the life of the world.**

Psalm 92 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	144	147	148	1, 2	5	8, 9	10	14, 15
Evening	145	146	149, 150	3	4, 6	7	11, 12	13

Readings for the Week of the Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy OR use → → → → →	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	Jesus Weeps Over Jerusalem—Luke 19:41-48	1 Samuel 19:1-24	Acts 28:1-15
Monday	The Destruction of the Temple Is Predicted—Mark 13:1-13	1 Samuel 20:1-23	Acts 28:16-31
Tuesday	The Great Tribulation—Mark 13:14-23	1 Samuel 20:24-42	1 Cor. 1:1-25
Wednesday	The Second Coming of Christ—Mark 13:24-37	1 Samuel 24:1-22	1 Cor. 1:26-2:16
Thursday	The Woman Caught in Adultery—John 7:53—8:12	1 Samuel 25:1-22	1 Cor. 3:1-23
Friday	Catch Up on Mark Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	1 Sam. 25:23-44	1 Cor. 4:1-21
Saturday	Catch Up on Mark Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	1 Sam. 26:1-25	1 Cor. 5:1-13
Sunday	Sunday’s readings	1 Sam. 28:3-25	1 Cor. 6:1-20

The Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar—Who receives this sacrament worthily?

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Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training.

But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words:

“Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.”

But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

Second Grade +

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

Prayer for Worthy Reception of the Sacrament of the Altar

Heavenly Father, You teach me that fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training before receiving the Lord’s Supper, but that I am truly worthy and well prepared if I have faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” Give me truly repentant faith that, confessing my sins and trusting in the merits of Jesus alone, I might worthily receive His body and blood, so that I find joy and comfort in Christ alone and also learn from Him to love You and my neighbor; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Collect for the Sick

Heavenly Father, You forgive all our iniquities and heal all our diseases. You sent Your only-begotten Son to bear our griefs and carry our sorrows. Be merciful to the sick and suffering in our congregation, pardon all their sins, and restore their health according to Your will. Preserve their faith, and keep them and their families in Your peace and safety; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for Those Whose Death Draws Near

Eternal Father, You alone make the decisions concerning life and death. Be gracious and merciful to those Christians, whose death seems imminent. Keep them in their baptismal grace, and prepare them to commit themselves to Your eternal care and keeping. Give them repentant hearts, firm faith, and a lively hope. Let not the fear of death cause them to waver in confidence and trust. At Your chosen time, grant them a peaceful departure and a joyous entrance into everlasting life with the glorious company of all Your saints; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Doug Pirk, friend of the Petersens, suffering with liver and kidney failure.

Cindy Hirtz, recovering after colon surgery; Pastor Suelflow in his ongoing struggle with a blood disorder.

Bob Zaretzke in his ongoing recovery from a motorcycle accident.

Jane Rockrohr, widow of Pr. Rockrohr and friend of members of Peace, suffering with post-surgical infections.

Emily Landry, undergoing heart tests and treatments. Gilbert Leon, recovering from bone marrow cancer treatment.

Maria Flores, Jocelyn Bender’s grandmother, suffering with cancer.

Phyllis, sister of Rosie Koplring in hospice care.

Collect for the Tenth Sunday after Trinity

O God, You declare Your almighty power above all in showing mercy and pity. Mercifully grant us such a measure of Your grace that we may obtain Your gracious promises and be made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; 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

“The Church’s One Foundation”

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Looking forward to the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

August 12, 2018

Hymns: 566, 559, 570, 628, 761, 433

Genesis 4:1-15: Cain’s offering was rejected because the faith of his heart was wrong. He trusted in himself and believed the Lord owed him because of his goodness. Abel’s offering was accepted because the faith of his heart was in the mercy of God. Both offerings were outwardly “the best they had” but one was given with the idolatrous faith of works righteousness and the other as a confession of faith in God’s grace. The Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector is anticipated by the account of Cain and Abel.

Ephesians 2:1-10: This classic passage on salvation by grace alone teaches that man is spiritually dead in trespasses and sins apart from the operation of the Holy Spirit and that even faith in Christ itself is a gift of God’s grace.

Luke 18:9-14: “The Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering” (Gen 4:1-15). For unlike Abel, Cain’s offering did not proceed from a heart that revered and trusted in the Lord. Thus, the lowly tax collector who prayed, “God be merciful to me, sinner!” was the one who went down to his house justified before God, not the respectable, outwardly righteous Pharisee who trusted in himself and his own good living (Luke 18:9-14). “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast” (Eph. 2:1-10). The one who penitently despairs of his own righteousness and relies completely on the atoning mercy of God in Christ is the one who is declared righteous. For Christ died for our sins and rose again the third day (1 Cor. 15:1-10). Therefore, “everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” (LSB hymnal notes)