

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of All Saints'

November 3, through November 10, 2019

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 57: A Prayer for Safety from the Enemies of Faith—The time of David's persecution under King Saul were very fruitful for him. By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit who strengthened him to bear up under the incessant attacks by Saul, he produced many of his greatest psalms. Psalm 57 was prayed by him when he fled from Saul into a cave. On that occasion, King Saul fell into David's grasp without Saul realizing it as Saul entered the same cave in which David was hiding to relieve himself. David and his men remained silent in the darkness of the cave. Though given the opportunity to strike down his enemy, David would not raise his hand against the anointed King. Instead, he commended himself to God who judges righteously and who would avenge his cause as he saw fit. David's example is an encouragement for us during times of prolonged and intense persecution for our faith. "Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You; and in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, until these calamities have passed by."

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: Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit, for Theirs Is the Kingdom of Heaven

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: John 6:63

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing.

The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

Psalm 57 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, teach us never to be discouraged or to lose heart when we are persecuted for our faith in Christ, but rather, teach us to rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is our reward in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	119:1-24	119:49-72	119:89-112	119:137-152	122, 123	125, 126	128, 129	131, 132
Evening	119:25-48	119:73-88	119:113-136	119:153-176	124	127	130	133, 134

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	All Saints' Day: The Beatitudes—Matthew 5:1-12	
Monday	Sarai's Name Change—Genesis 17:15-27	Romans 4:13-25
Tuesday	The Three Visitors—Genesis 18:1-15	Hebrews 11:8-16
Wednesday	Abraham Prays for Sodom—Genesis 18:16-33	1 Cor. 5:9-11; 6:9-11
Thursday	Sodom and Gomorrah Are Destroyed—Genesis 19:1 (2-11) 12-29	Matthew 11:20-30
Friday	Abraham and Abimelech—Genesis 20:1-18	James 5:13-20
Saturday	Trinity 25: The Golden Calf—Exodus 32:1-20	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The Catechism: The Creed—The Third Article

What is the Third Article of the Creed?

**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.**

Preschool +

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

First Grade +

In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.
On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead,
and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.
This is most certainly true.

Second Grade +

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

Prayer on the Third Article

O Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and the Son to give life and salvation to the world, and who, together with the Father and the Son, we worship and glorify as the only true God, receive our thanks and praise for proclaiming Christ to us through the preaching of the Gospel and gifts of the holy sacraments. Faith in Jesus Christ our Savior, hope in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, and love for God and our enemies are all Your creations and gifts to us through the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name. Preserve the holy Christian Church among us through the faithful preaching of the Gospel and the right administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Bless the communion of saints that every baptized Christian, sharing in Christ's love through the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name, might abide in Christ and bear witness to His love in all that we do and say. Give us firm hope in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, so that we might faithfully endure persecution for Jesus' sake and suffer all, even death itself, rather than fall away from Him who gave His life for us. Hear us, O Holy Spirit, for You live and reign with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Robert Haga, leaving for Marine Boot Camp in San Diego, CA November 18.

Kirstin Franklin serving with the LCMS Mercy Medical Team in Uganda for two weeks.

The sick: Oliver Siegel, 16-year old grandson of a friend of Christine Franklin, recuperating from complicated spine surgery;

Tim Murphy, neighbor's son of Jim and Anne Schumacher, who suffered a stroke;

Aubrey Krueger, suffering from postpartum complications;

Francis Sidwell, father of Donna Aufdemberge, hospitalized with heart, lung, and kidney issues;

Ruth Mitchell, mother of Kimberly Hughes, recovering from pace maker surgery;

Roger Laubenstein, cancer treatment;

Geri Klimowicz, neighbor of Kathy May, recovering from Hepatitis A and liver complications.

Joe Loesl in hospice care.

Collect for All Saints' Day

Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

Hymn of the Week

"Behold a Host, Arrayed in White" (stanza1)

TLH 656

Looking forward to the Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity

November 10, 2019

Hymns 336, 658, 511, 513, 621, 733

Exodus 32:1-20: *Israel's idolatry with the Golden Calf not only was an abomination of God's people, it also caused great desolation for them. Through the desolation they would suffer because of this act of spiritual adultery, God would work His salvation through the promise of Him who would come to suffer the consequences of their abominable corruption in His death upon the cross.*

I Thessalonians 4:13-18: *Paul comforts us in the grief over the death of Christians by pointing us to the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of all the dead when Christ returns again in glory. The first to be resurrected are those Christians who have already died in the Lord. After that, those Christians who are living on earth at the time of Jesus' Second Coming will also rise to immortality and incorruption. Then we will be caught up with the Lord and ever remain with Him in His eternal comfort.*

Luke 17:20-30: *It is of great comfort to know that the Kingdom of God is not like any earthly kingdom that can be seen and observed with its civil rulers, great armies, or vast lands. Instead, the Kingdom of God is what Holy Scripture and the Catechism teach: "when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His Holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity." The kingdom of God is the gift of faith in Christ that is created and preserved throughout the world in the hearts of Christians, wherever the Gospel is preached and the Sacraments are administered. This kingdom can never be destroyed by the kingdoms of this world. We live in this faith and confidence and because of this we have the blessed hope in Christ's Second Coming in which the nations will all see that Jesus is Lord. In the meantime, it looks as if the Church is being destroyed. There will be persecution and suffering for the Kingdom of God, just as Jesus suffered before entering into glory. There will be false Christs and false prophets, but we are not to follow them. We follow the crucified and risen Savior. As it was in the days of Noah and Lot, so it will be before the coming of our Lord in glory. But our Lord will come again and we shall rejoice in Him whose victory upon the cross has brought resurrection and eternal life from the dead.*