

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Feast of the Holy Trinity
June 7, through June 14, 2020

Catechesis Notes for the Week —The Holy Trinity and the Creation of Mankind—On Holy Trinity Sunday the Church celebrates, confesses, and meditates upon the mystery of the Holy Trinity. “The catholic (historic, universal, biblical) faith is this, that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance. For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another. But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal” (Athanasian Creed). That God is Triune—one God in three persons—has important implications for humanity and how we understand marriage and family. Mankind is created in the image of the Triune God to be fruitful and to have dominion over the creation. There is an “ordering” in mankind’s creation. “Man was created by God in two genders, male and female: the man was created first from the dust of the ground and the woman was created from the rib in man’s side. This does not show a ‘superior’ and ‘inferior’ quality between the man and the woman, but an ordering in this relationship of love between two different individuals. It shows both the uniqueness of each person and the corporate and dependent nature of their relationship. This ordering is a reflection of the ordering between the three persons of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: ‘None is before or after another; none is greater or less than another’ (Athanasian Creed), and yet, the Son is ‘begotten of His Father’ and the Holy Spirit ‘proceeds from the Father and the Son’ (Nicene Creed). Holy Scripture teaches that ‘the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God’ (1 Corinthians 11:3).”—*The order of creation, Lutheran Catechesis, p. 311.*

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 Be the Holy Trinity!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 3:5

Most assuredly, I say unless one is born of water and the Spirit,
he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Psalm 8 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, Your name is excellent in all the earth for You have loved us poor and undeserving sinners with an everlasting love that moved You to give Your Son into death for our salvation. You have made us a little lower than the angels, but in Christ You have exalted us to Your right hand and given us dominion over all the works of Your hands, having put all things under our feet. For all Your exceedingly great and precious blessings we give You thanks and praise through 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	59	60, 61	65	66	68	71	73	75, 76
Evening	57, 58	62	63, 64	67, 70	69	72	74	77

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Holy Trinity: John 3:1-17	
Monday	Jesus’ Ministry and the Call of the Fishermen—Matthew 4:12-25	Isaiah 4:2-6
Tuesday	The Sermon on the Mount: The Beatitudes—Matthew 5:1-12	Isaiah 5:1-7
Wednesday	Christ’s Righteousness Fulfills the Law—Matthew 5:13-20	Isaiah 6:1-13
Thursday	You Shall Not Murder—Matthew 5:21-26 St. Barnabas, Apostle: Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3	Isaiah 7:10-16
Friday	You Shall Not Commit Adultery—Matthew 5:27-32	Isaiah 8:11-20
Saturday	You Shall Not Give False Testimony—Matthew 5:33-37	Isaiah 9:2-7

The Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism—Part I and II

What is Baptism? Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command and combined with God’s word.	Third Grade +
Which is that word of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew:	First Grade +
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” [Matt. 28:19]	Kindergarten +

<p><i>What benefits does Baptism give?</i> It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.</p>	Third Grade +
<p><i>Which are these words and promises of God?</i> Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” [Mark 16:16]</p>	Second Grade +

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Benefits of Baptism

Heavenly Father, we give thanks to You that, for Jesus' sake, Baptism works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as Your words and promises declare. Comfort us and strengthen our faith in Jesus with the promise that whoever believes in Him and is baptized will be saved; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Pat Rothe (6/7), Jennifer Gretzinger (6/9), Lisa LaFore, Jim Miller, Lois Verage (6/12.)

Wedding Anniversaries: Pete and Brenda Greschner, Dale and Kim Stratil (6/6), Tyler and Rachel Haga (6/8), Jim and Mary Ellen Nitzsche (6/10), Paul and Sue Kachelmeyer (6/11).

Deliverance from pestilence, sedition, and rebellion

The sick: Roger Laubenstein, recovering from a blood infection and receiving cancer treatment;

Jeremy LaFore suffering with ALS;

David Ellestad, suffering with the aftermath of strokes;

Walter Schmudlach, with an inoperable tumor;

Pat Murphy suffering with severe back pain.

In hospice care: Kurt Scheler and Lois Verage.

Those who mourn: Anthony Corso, father of Robert Corso who died June 4th.

Collect for the Feast of the Holy Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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

Hymn of the Week

“I Bind Unto Myself Today”

LSB 604

Looking forward to the First Sunday after Trinity	June 14, 2020
Hymns: 797, 768, 708, 618, 598	
<p>Genesis 15:1-6: <i>The proper understanding of saving faith is that faith receives what God says and trusts in it. “Abraham believed in the Lord, and He [the Lord] accounted it [the promise] to him for righteousness” (Genesis 15:6). Abraham believed in what the Lord said, and by that Word which Abraham received by faith, the Lord accounted Abraham righteous. In other words, the Word of Promise was Abraham’s righteousness because the Word of Promise delivered Christ to Abraham. The righteousness that was “accounted to Abraham” is the righteousness of Christ Himself. This righteousness is received and accounted to us by faith in the Gospel. Faith saves, not because it is a good work of the sinner, but because it believes in the promise of righteousness in the Gospel. All the promises of God to the patriarchs are ultimately fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Christ for unworthy and undeserving sinners.</i></p>	
<p>1 John 4:16-21: <i>The Apostle John teaches us that God’s nature is love. Unlike human loves which are corrupted by the self-centeredness of sin, God’s love is pure and self-giving. Its ultimate expression is in the Father’s giving of His only begotten Son to the death of the cross. Our faith as Christians clings to the love of God in Christ. It is a selfless and sacrificial love that moved the Father to give His Son and that moved the Son to willingly offer His life on our behalf. This love, received by faith in Christ’s sacrifice for us, casts out the fear of judgment because the full and free forgiveness of all sins is at the center of this love. It is impossible to remain in the love of God and at the same time hate our brother and hold his sins against him. “We love because He first loved us.” It is the reception of God’s love in the forgiveness of our sins that creates the miracle of love for the brother and, especially, for those who have sinned against us.</i></p>	
<p>Luke 16:19-31: <i>The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus raises these questions: “Who is your god? What do you worship? Is God’s judgment at death final? How does God warn me of the judgment of hell? What brings me to repentance?” The beggar was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man suffered in hell, gazing at Abraham and the beggar from afar. Each received what he believed in: the rich man received the comforts of this life and of his own achievements, which did not last, and the beggar received the comfort of God’s salvation through the faith of Abraham, which endures to eternal life. The judgment of death is final: “There is a great gulf fixed” between heaven and hell. Those in one place cannot pass to the other. Repentance to faith in Christ comes only through hearing the message of Moses and the prophets, who actually proclaim salvation for sinners through the death of the resurrected One—Jesus Christ, our Lord.</i></p>	