

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Second Sunday after Trinity
June 21 through June 28, 2020

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 81—Luther on Psalm 81: “The 81st psalm is a psalm of prayer. It is a song sung and preached in the harvest season at the Festival of Tabernacles, calling the people back to the First Commandment, that they should have only one God—He who had brought them out of the land of Egypt—and should praise and call on no other. They did not keep this command, but instead their mouth and instruction were full of idolatry, whereas they ought to have been full of the true God and should have always spoken of Him alone. This psalm teaches us to believe in Christ and cling to Him alone and never commend any work as righteous before God. We also should have our mouth full of Christ, yet we do not do this. Each one follows his own self-conceit and idol.” Martin Luther, *Reading the Psalms with Luther*

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: All Things Are Ready, Come to the Feast!

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: *Ephesians 2:19-20*

You are no longer strangers and foreigners,
but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,
having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.

Psalm 81 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, God of all grace, anoint us with the oil of joy, causing Your Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, that He may teach us to worship You in spirit and in truth. And whenever we enter Your courts, let it be done with a joyous heart, to give glory to You, and to praise Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	91	92	95, 96	98, 100	101	103	105	107
Evening	93	94	97	99	102	104	106	108

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Trinity 2: The Great Feast—Luke 14:15-24	
Monday	Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant—Matthew 8:5-13	Isaiah 18:3-6
Tuesday	Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-law—Matthew 8:14-22	Isaiah 19:1-4
Wednesday	Jesus Stills the Storm—Matthew 8:23-27 Nativity of St. John the Baptist: Luke 1:57-80	Isaiah 20:1-6
Thursday	Two Demon-Possessed Men Are Healed—Matthew 8:28-34	Isaiah 21:1-10
Friday	Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralytic—Matthew 9:1-8	Isaiah 22:1-14
Saturday	Matthew the Tax Collector—Matthew 9:9-13	Isaiah 22:20-23

The Catechism: Christian Questions with Their Answers

What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?

First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord.

Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.

But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?

To such a person no better advice can be given than this:

first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood.

Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7.

Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world,

and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble,

as the Scriptures say in John 15-16 and in 1 John 2 and 5.

Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him,

who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without,

as the Scriptures picture him in John 8 and 16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and 2 Timothy 2.

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

Prayer before receiving the Lord's Supper

Lord God, heavenly Father I come to the Altar at Your invitation to receive the holy body and the precious blood of My Savior Jesus Christ. I confess to You all my sins. I am heartily sorry for them. For Jesus' sake, I forgive my enemies and all who have sinned against me. I believe that You give me the forgiveness of sins and the gift of new life and salvation through the body and blood of My Savior. Through the Lord's Supper strengthen my faith in Christ, increase my love for others, grant me faithfulness in my vocation, and give me the joyous hope and confidence of eternal life and salvation in Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer to know our need to receive the Sacrament:

Lord Jesus, You give a sweet command that I receive Your body and blood frequently. You tell me in the Scriptures that, as long as I have a body, my sinful flesh will war against the Spirit. You tell me in the Scriptures that, as long as I am in this world, there will be no lack of sin and trouble from those who hate You and Your followers. You tell me in the Scriptures that the devil will always be around with his lying and murdering, and that he will let me have no peace. Because of these enemies I have a pressing need for the Sacrament, even when I feel no hunger and thirst for it. Your command and encouragement teach me to flee to the Sacrament for the promise of Your forgiveness, life, and salvation. Comfort, strengthen, and protect me with Your body and Your blood. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Matthias Woods (6/20), Bettirae Weber, Carol Zick (6/22), Marjorie Trimberger (6/23), Kurt Meyle Jr. (6/25), Cheri' LaFore, Sara Scheler (6/26).

Wedding Anniversaries: Stan and Joan Heine Jr. (6/23), Brett and Kara Rhode, (6/26).

Deliverance from pestilence, sedition, and rebellion.

Thanksgiving to God: for Jan Meyle, mother of Kurt Meyle Sr., on her 80th birthday.

The sick: Roger Laubenstein, receiving cancer treatment;

Jeremy LaFore suffering with ALS;

Walter Schmudlach, with an inoperable tumor;

Pat Murphy suffering with severe back pain;

Katie Fischer and her unborn baby;

David Berger recuperating from brain surgery.

Jim Nitzsche recovering from a fractured pelvis

In hospice care: Kurt Scheler and Lois Verage.

Collect for the Second Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, since You never fail to help and govern those whom You nurture in Your steadfast fear and love, work in us a perpetual fear and love of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Almighty God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, You once proclaimed salvation. Now grant that we may know this salvation and serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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

"A Multitude Comes from the East and the West"

LSB 510

Looking forward to the Third Sunday after Trinity

June 28, 2020

Hymns: 609 (1-4), 609 (5-7), 558, 637, 641, 505 (st. 1)

Micah 7:18-20: The Triune God is the only true God, because He alone is the God of mercy and salvation by grace alone. Our life with Him is established only on the basis of His undeserved mercy, compassion, and loving-kindness toward us. "Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy" (vs. 18).

1 Timothy 1:12-17: The Lord's salvation of Paul stands as a sign that God can save the worst of sinners. Paul clearly confesses that his office and apostleship was a gift of God's grace alone, that in Paul's ministry as an apostle, other sinners might come to know the overwhelming grace and salvation of God in Christ. Paul's conversion and reception of God's grace and salvation in Christ is a sign to all of us. If the Lord can rescue the likes of Saul of Tarsus who had persecuted the Church and fought so violently against the Gospel, then He can save any sinner from the condemnation of hell.

Luke 15:1-10: The Parables of the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin teach us that it is our Lord who takes the initiative to seek us when we have gone astray and to call us back to our Baptism and the salvation that He has won for us. Nothing matters more to our Lord than that we are rescued from the threatening perils of our sins. It is because of His great love for us in Christ that "there is more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over the ninety-nine who need no repentance." But the truth is: there is not a person on earth who does not need the Lord's salvation.