

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
September 27 through October 4, 2020*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 92 — A Prayer of Daily Thanksgiving for the Love of the Lord—There is so much evil in the world. It is foolish and senseless to deny the existence of God and the goodness of His love. Enemies abound who reject the Lord God, but He never fails to uphold, strengthen, and lift up His people who trust in Him and to make them glad by the works of His hands. As believers in the Lord and in His sustaining grace, we commend the wicked and all workers of iniquity to Him who will judge the wicked and bring their evil plans to an end in His good time. In the meantime, “It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; to declare Your lovingkindness in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.” The humble, faithful, regular morning and evening prayers of Christians are a balm for the soul in the face of the evils of our age. Daily prayer focuses our attention upon what the Lord has done and continues to do for His people. In such regular meditation upon God’s Word, anxiety is dispelled and confidence in the Lord is strengthened. The righteous walk by faith in the Lord’s promise and do not live in despair when we see the wickedness of the world around us. “The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree... They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing.”

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: Our Lord Took Death Upon Himself to Restore Our Life with God!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 6:23

The wages of sin is death,
but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, as we experience the wickedness and distress of the world in which we live, teach us in our daily morning and evening prayers to look to Your lovingkindness to sustain and comfort us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	35	37	40	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56
Evening	36	38	39, 41	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Widow of Nain’s Son Is Raised—Luke 7:11-17	
Monday	Spies Are Sent into Canaan—Numbers 13:1-3 (4-16) 17-33	Hebrews 11:8-16
Tuesday	Israel Refuses to Enter Canaan; Moses Intercedes—Num. 14:1-24 St. Michael and All Angels—Revelation 12:7-12	Hebrews 11:17-29
Wednesday	The Rebels Are Sentenced to Death—Numbers 14:26-45	Hebrews 11:30-40
Thursday	Rebellion Against Moses and Aaron—Numbers 16:1-19a	Hebrews 12:1-11
Friday	The Lord Confirms That Moses Is His Prophet—Numbers 16:19b-40	Hebrews 12:12-24
Saturday	The Wisdom of Solomon—Proverbs 25:6-14	Ephesians 4:1-6

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments— Review of the Commandments and the Close of the Commandments

What are the Ten Commandments? You shall have no other gods...etc.	Preschool +
What does God say about all these commandments? He says: “I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” [Ex. 20:5-6]	First Grade +
What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.	Preschool +

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

Prayers on the Close of the Commandments:

Almighty God, You threaten to punish all who break Your commandments. Therefore, help us to fear Your wrath and not do anything against them. But You also promise grace and every blessing to all who keep Your commandments. Therefore, forgive us our sins and strengthen our faith in Jesus, so that we love and trust in You and gladly do what You command. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lord God, heavenly Father, apart from You we have no life or salvation, therefore You are a jealous God, desiring us to fear, love, and trust in You above all things. You punish children for the sin they share in and have committed from their fathers, that they might be brought to repentance and faith in Jesus for the forgiveness of sins. You show love and mercy to those who love You and keep Your commandments, therefore, grant us true repentance and forgive us every sin against Your holy Law that we might cheerfully love You and gladly do what You command, 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

Baptismal Birthdays: Travis Dubnicka, Ben Banasik, August Christopherson (9/26), Donna Aufdemberge, Breanna Hertzberg (9/28), George Kaminski, Christine Dubnicka (9/29), Evan Hertzberg, Jeff Meehan (10/1), Doreen Corso (10/2).

Wedding Anniversaries: Ed and Michelle Ratzlaff (9/28), Kevin and Sherry Larson, John and Pam Lehman, Pat and Kate Handlos (9/29), Don and Rosanne Fell (9/30).

The sick and recovering:

Luise Bollmeyer, Lenny Schrauth, Karl Stemke, Jeremy LaFore, David Berger, Brian Nienabor, Roger Laubenstein, Harlan Petersen, Allison Witte.

Collect for the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, we pray that Your grace may always go before and follow after us, that we may continually be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for St. Michael and All Angels

Everlasting God, You have ordained and constituted the service of angels and men in a wonderful order. Mercifully grant that, as Your holy angels always serve and worship You in heaven, so by Your appointment they may also help and defend us here on earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ, 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 Christians Who Have Been Baptized" (stanzas 1 and 4)

LSB 596

Looking forward to the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

October 4, 2020

Hymns: 845, 557, 574, 587, 698, 596

Proverbs 25:6-14: Solomon's wise sayings reflect, in concrete ways, what living by faith in the Gospel of Christ looks like. We do not exalt ourselves; we live in humility toward one another; we take up grievances with the person with whom we have a concern; and we guard our tongues from gossip and slander. All this is but a reflection of how God in Christ treats us.

Ephesians 4:1-6: To be a disciple of the Lord Jesus means that we walk through our life by faith in Him. Paul exhorts the Ephesian Christians to "have a walk worthy of the calling" of the Gospel that they have received. Such a "walk" is characterized by humble reliance upon the Gospel by which we are able to bear one another's burdens with all longsuffering. The "unity of the Spirit" is a reference to holding fast to the common confession of Christian doctrine: There is one body and one Spirit... one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all."

Luke 14:1-11: How wonderful it is to see Jesus entering into the homes of those who did not believe in Him! The Pharisees rejected Jesus' mercy for those they deemed unworthy, but that did not prevent Jesus from reaching out to them. In this Gospel, Jesus went into the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees for dinner on the Sabbath. It appears from the testimony of St. Luke as if nearly everyone was against Him. They watched Him closely to see what He would say or do that they might trap Him in His words or actions. It is worth noting that Jesus does not apologize to them for any way He might have offended them. Instead, He calls them to repentance for their self-righteousness by asking them a question that illuminates the purpose of the Sabbath: to give the rest, peace, and salvation that only God can give. This is why the Old Testament believers were called to "stop working" on the Sabbath, so that God might work in them. So, He asks, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?" But they kept silent. Jesus answers His own question by healing the man and setting him free. That is what the Sabbath is all about: God doing good works for our life and salvation! Then Jesus further illustrates His point by asking another question, "Which of you, having a donkey or an ox that has fallen into a pit, will not immediately pull him out on the Sabbath?" But still they could not answer. It often takes much preaching and prayer to break through the hardened heart of a self-righteous sinner.