

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
October 11 through October 18, 2020*

Catechesis Notes for the Week —Luther on Psalm 94 —"The 94th psalm of prayer that, by my understanding, cries out not against the heathen but against the kings and princes, priests, and prophets. The psalmist calls them fools among the people, senseless ones who teach and rule the people foolishly and badly. These are the ones who kill and persecute all the godly prophets and their disciples. As the psalmist says, they presume upon God. He has given them the power and has stood by and watched, not paying attention to those whom they slaughtered as condemned heretics and rebels. Against these authorities, the psalmist prays, desiring help and support. Although he finds no help, he takes comfort in his confidence that God's Word and actions are reliable, and God will not allow the corrupt throne to come upon them but will repay them for their lies and murders. Amen."— *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: David's Greater Son Fulfills the Law of Love!

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: 1 Timothy 1:15

**This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,
of whom I am chief.**

Psalm 94 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: *Lord, You are a merciful and a jealous God. Convert Your enemies, and draw to You those that are going astray; but restrain the malicious persecutors of Your Church and the willful corrupters of Your truth. Bring their counsels to naught, and show that You are the Lord. Build Your Church, and make it a city upon a hill for the salvation of many, through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	73	75, 76	78	80	82, 84	85	88	89
Evening	74	77	79	81	83	86	87	90

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Which Is the Greatest Commandment?—Matthew 22:34-46	
Monday	The Sin of Peor—Numbers 25:1-18	Galatians 2:1-10
Tuesday	Joshua Is Ordained to Take Moses' Place—Numbers 27:12-23	Galatians 2:11-21
Wednesday	Moses Reminds the People of God's Law—Dt. 1:1a, 3; 5:1-11a, 12, 16-22	Galatians 3:1-9
Thursday	Moses Warns the People Against Rebelling—Dt. 5:32—6:25	Galatians 3:10-14
Friday	The Lord Will Raise Up a Prophet Like Moses—Dt. 18:9-22	Galatians 3:15-25
Saturday	The Lord Promises Salvation to Jacob—Genesis 28:10-17	Ephesians 4:22-28

The Catechism: The Creed—The First Article

What is the First Article of the Creed? I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.	Preschool +
<i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have.	First Grade +
He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.	Second Grade +

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

Prayer on the First Article

Lord God, heavenly Father, in the First Article of the Creed You teach us that You are the God of self-giving love. You have created us and all things out of Your fatherly divine goodness and mercy. We give thanks to You for all that You have made, for every gift of body and soul, for our talents and abilities, and for all that You have given us to preserve us each day and to make our lives enjoyable. You richly and daily provide us with all that we need to support us in this body and life, and You defend us against all danger and guard and keep us from all evil. Forgive us for not trusting in You, for failing to give thanks for all Your gifts of creation, and for not using Your gifts in loving service to others. Strengthen us by Jesus' forgiveness and love to rejoice in all that You have made and to ever thank and praise, serve and obey You all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Thanksgiving for God's Creation

Heavenly Father, Your Word gives life and has created and sustains all things. We thank You for the sun, the moon, and the stars which give light to the earth and order our days and seasons. We give thanks to You for the expanse of the sky, for the water that sustains all of life, and for the dry land upon which we live. We give thanks to You for the plants and animals of Your creation. You have given all of this to us for our good and for our enjoyment. We give thanks to You that You have created us in Your image, male and female, to be fruitful and multiply, and to have dominion over the creation. We thank You for ordering our lives and giving us rest and refreshment through Your Word. But most of all, we thank You for redeeming us and all of creation from sin and death through the gift of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to trust in You as our Creator and to believe in Your Son for eternal life and salvation, through the same Jesus Christ, 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: Jan Wollin (10/14).

Wedding Anniversaries: Kurt and Cyndi Ruhnau (10/10).

The sick and recovering:

John Boehringer, father of Beth Boehringer diagnosed with Covid-19.

Mike Murphy, friend of the Schumachers, hospitalized and recovering from extensive surgery for cancer;

Luise Bollmeyer in therapy at Pro Health Rehab Hospital in Waukesha;

Lenny Schrauth, in treatment for Parkinson's disease and other ailments;

Karl Stemke in therapy after a stroke;

Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS;

David Berger receiving in home therapy following the trauma of brain surgery;

Brian Nienabor, Roger Laubenstein, Harlan Petersen, and Allison Witte in treatment for cancer.

For those who mourn: Edna Uttenreither, mother of Rev. Matt Uttenreither

Collect for the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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

"In God, My Faithful God" (stanzas 1-2)

LSB 745

Looking forward to the Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

October 18, 2020

Hymns: 708, 614, 531, 635, 814

Genesis 28:10-17: In Jacob's dream at Bethel, the Lord came to him and reaffirmed the promise of salvation through the coming Messiah: "in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed." This is why Jacob confessed, "Surely the Lord is in this place...How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" Wherever the saving Word of the Gospel is proclaimed, THERE is the very presence of the Lord Himself for the salvation of His people. The Lord's Word is our comfort too: "I am the Lord God of Abraham...I am with you and will keep you wherever you go..."

Ephesians 4:22-28: The Holy Spirit renews our faith and life in Christ through His Word of grace and mercy in Jesus.

Matthew 9:1-8: A paralyzed man is the perfect image of humanity who cannot save itself from the bondage and paralysis of sin. The paralytic had to be brought to Jesus. We have to be brought to Jesus. His greatest problem was not physical paralysis, but the problem of sin which was the cause of all his maladies. It is the same for us. Jesus' word addressed the real problem: "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." It is this word that the self-righteous scribes objected to. They accused Jesus of blasphemy: using the power of God that He had no right to use. They were wrong. Jesus had the authority to forgive sins because He came into the world to pay the ultimate price for sin. The scribes had no power to make a man walk or to take away a man's sin. It was impossible for them. It is impossible for us. But Jesus had the power to do both. To teach them that He had the power to forgive sins, He made the man to arise and walk. What none of us could do, Jesus did. He has now given the power to forgive sins to His Church, so that paralyzed and broken sinners might be set free and reconciled to God. "When the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men." Thanks be to God that Jesus power and authority to forgive sins is found in the Church where His Gospel is preached and His sacraments are administered. In Christ's absolution, sinners are set free from bondage and reconciled to God.