

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of the Reformation

October 25 through November 1, 2020

Catechesis Notes for the Week —Psalm 96 —The New Song of the Gospel Calls to Faith and is Our Confession—Several psalms call us to “sing to the Lord a new song!” The substance of the “new song” is the Good News of salvation in Christ, anchored in the “New” Testament in His blood. It is the song of grace and mercy for sinners in Jesus. It is the sung confession of faith in Christ and the sung proclamation of that Gospel that calls us to faith in Him. We sing that song! That song goes out into all the earth! And we want the whole earth to sing that song as the nations come to repentance and faith in Christ for salvation. All the gods of mankind are idols, but the God who redeemed us with the blood of His Son is also the Creator of the heavens and the earth. He has established the earth. He calls the nations to repentance and desires all to be saved and to sing this song. This salvation in Christ is the beauty of God’s holiness and what moves the heavens to rejoice. The song of the Gospel restores life to God’s creation and promises resurrection from the dead. On the last day Christ will return to judge the nations by the righteousness of His cross and the truth of His Word.

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: The Truth of the Gospel Sets Us Free!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:21

**[God] made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us,
that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**

Psalm 96 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Oh Lord, grant us grace to sing the new song of Your salvation that the nations might hear of Your love and join in the joyful song of Your mercy and grace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	105	107	109	112, 113	115	117, 118	119:1-24	119:49-72
Evening	106	108	110, 111	114	116	120, 121	119:25-48	119:73-88

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Truth Shall Set You Free—John 8:31-36	
Monday	The Destruction of Jericho—Joshua 6:1-27	Galatians 5:16-26
Tuesday	The Sin of Achan—Joshua 7:1-26	Galatians 6:1-10
Wednesday	The Fall of Ai—Joshua 8:1-29	Galatians 6:11-18
	St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles—John 15:17-21	
Thursday	The Sun and Moon Stand Still—Joshua 10:1-15 (16-28)	Ephesians 1:1-12
Friday	Joshua’s Conquests—Joshua 11:15-20; 13:1-7; 18:1-2, 10; 21:43-45	Ephesians 1:12-23
Saturday	The Great Multitude Arrayed in White—Revelation 7:9-17	1 John 3:1-3

The Catechism: The Creed— The Second Article

What is the Second Article of the Creed? And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord...	Preschool +
<i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,	First Grade +
That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.	Second Grade +

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

Prayer on the Second Article

Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Second Article of the Creed You teach us that Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, is the greatest gift of Your love for us. He is truly God, begotten of You from eternity, and He is truly man, born of the Virgin Mary. He has become our Lord and Savior by redeeming us from all sins, death, and from the power of the devil with His holy precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death. We no longer belong to the devil. Sin and death have no power over us. Jesus did all this that we might be His own, and that we might live under Him in His kingdom in the protection and safety of His everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness for all eternity. For all that Jesus has done for us we give You thanks and praise. Forgive us for trusting in any work of our own for salvation. Forgive us for doubting Your love and the precious gift of forgiveness we have in Jesus. Grant us, through the grace of Your only-begotten Son, to believe with absolute confidence that our sins are forgiven and that we stand righteous before You for Jesus' sake because He is risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Robert Haga (10/24), Chuck Finke, Delaney DiPuma, Joanne LaSage, Al Gabel, Lindsey Weber (10/25), Paul Kachelmeyer (10/29), Lydia Schneider (10/30).

Wedding Anniversaries: Jeffrey and Lindsey Kenyon (10/26), Matthew and Sarah Damato, Larry and Sharon Martin (10/28).

The sick and recovering:

Thanksgiving for John and Patrina Boehringer's recovery from Covid-19

David Berger, undergoing brain surgery Wednesday.

Jim Nitzsche, diagnosed with small cell lung cancer;

Bettirae Weber, diagnosed with liver cancer

Sarah (Scheler) Griffin, diagnosed with thyroid cancer

Eunice Rankin, in treatment for Covid-19;

Luise Bollmeyer, Karl Stenke, receiving therapy;

Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS;

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

Collect for St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles (October 28)

Almighty God, You chose Your servants Simon and Jude to be numbered among the glorious company of the apostles. As they were faithful and zealous in their mission, so may we with ardent devotion make known the love and mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for the Reformation (October 31)

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; 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

"Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice" (stanzas 1-2, 4-5)

556

Looking forward to All Saints' Day

November 1, 2020

Hymns: 670, 677, 637, TLH 656, 672, 671

Revelation 7:9-17: John sees a vision of heaven. On the last day, believers of every tribe and nation will be gathered before the throne of the Lamb. They will have had their sin washed clean by the blood of the Lamb. They will be clothed with the righteousness of Christ, and they will forever sing the praises of Him who is their salvation and who has wiped away all tears from their eyes.

1 John 3:1-3: The Apostle John points us forward to the hope of the resurrection when we will be like Christ Jesus in His glory. We now walk by faith in the promises of salvation and the resurrection of the body. We live in the sure and certain hope and confidence that we shall rise from the dead to an immortal life that is the very life of Christ Himself. "It has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

Matthew 5:1-12: The One greater than Moses calls His disciples out of the multitudes and opens His mouth to give them the Word of God by which they are made alive. Jesus preaches about the reality of Baptism in which we are joined to Christ so that what is true of Him is now true of us. Truly, the eight Beatitudes describe Christ, but the plural is used because God the Father now declares this about all who are baptized into the name of the Blessed Trinity. Eight represents those of the new creation who possess the kingdom of heaven just as the eight were spared from the Flood in the ark. Each Beatitude looks back to events from the history of Israel, but also anticipates other parts of Matthew's Gospel. The life of the baptized is to be that of sorrow and joy, persecution and reward, death and resurrection. So closely are we joined to Christ in Baptism that these things of His experience become ours also. This is to be immediately understood of the work of the apostles themselves as they preach the content of the Beatitudes, that is, Christ. If they preach the Beatitudes as Law, the world will readily accept their preaching for the world sees these as admirable guides for behavior. It is only when they dare to proclaim the Gospel of the meek and merciful Peacemaker that they will be rejected and persecuted. But it is in this meek and merciful Peacemaker, our Lord Jesus Christ, that we have the joy and freedom of the Gospel. The promises of the Beatitudes become a source of comfort for us as Christians who believe in Jesus and who bear in our own bodies and lives the very life of Christ our Savior.