

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of All Saints'

November 1 through November 8, 2020

Catechesis Notes for the Week —Psalm 97 — A Prayer of Rejoicing in the Reign of Christ—*Psalm 97 is a prayer of rejoicing in the kingdom of Christ and His Gospel spreading throughout the earth. Rejoicing and gladness always accompanies the reception of the Gospel in believing hearts. The clouds and darkness, together with the lightnings that light up the world remind us of the thunder and lightning at Mount Sinai and the signs that accompanied our Lord's crucifixion. The preaching of God's Word and the proclamation of the Gospel extend the reign of Christ into the citadels of unbelief and drive out the kingdom of Satan. The emphasis upon both "righteousness" and "justice" in Psalm 97 refers to the righteousness and justice that Christ accomplished in His death upon the cross, which is then proclaimed to the ends of the earth for the salvation of the nations. Such repentance and faith cause those who "love the Lord," to also "hate evil." By His Gospel and Sacraments, the Lord "preserves the souls of His saints; and delivers them out of the hand of the wicked. We are "righteous" for Christ's sake and "give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name" for all that He has done for us and for the whole world.*

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 Are the Poor in Spirit for Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven!

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: John 15:26

**When the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father,
the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.**

Psalm 97 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: *O Lord, we give thanks to You that all of heaven declares Your righteousness and all the nations of the earth see Your glory in the proclamation of Your saving name. Keep us steadfast in the true faith and grant us to rejoice continually in the free gift of Your everlasting salvation; 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	119:49-72	119:89-112	119:137-152	122, 123	125, 126	128, 129	131, 132	135
Evening	119:73-88	119:113-136	119:153-176	124	127	130	133, 134	136

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Beatitudes—Matthew 5:1-12	
Monday	Joshua's Farewell Address—Joshua 23:1-4; 24:2-14	Ephesians 2:1-10
Tuesday	The Death of Joshua—Joshua 24:13-31	Ephesians 2:11-18
Wednesday	The Conquest of Canaan Continues—Judges 1:1-9, 27-33; 2:1-6	Eph. 2:19—3:7
Thursday	Israel's Unfaithfulness and the Judges—Judges 2:7-23	Ephesians 3:8-13
Friday	Othniel, Israel's First Judge—Judges 3:7-11	Ephesians 3:14-21
Saturday	To Walk Humbly with Your God—Micah 6:6-8	Philippians 1:3-11

The Catechism: The Creed— The Third Article

What is the Third Article of the Creed?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Preschool +

<p><i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.</p>	First Grade +
<p>In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.</p>	Second Grade +

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

Prayer on the Third Article

O Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and the Son to give life and salvation to the world, and who, together with the Father and the Son, we worship and glorify as the only true God, receive our thanks and praise for proclaiming Christ to us through the preaching of the Gospel and gifts of the holy sacraments. Faith in Jesus Christ our Savior, hope in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, and love for God and our enemies are all Your creations and gifts to us through the forgiveness of sins in Jesus. Preserve the holy Christian Church among us through the faithful preaching of the Gospel and the right administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Bless the communion of saints that every baptized Christian, sharing in Christ's love through His forgiveness, might abide in Christ and bear witness to His love in all that we do and say. Give us firm hope in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, so that we might faithfully endure persecution for Jesus' sake and suffer all, even death itself, rather than fall away from Him who gave His life for us. Hear us, O Holy Spirit, for You live and reign with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Rev. Robert Johnson (11/1), John Uttenreither (11/2), Nancy LaFore (11/5), Moritz Koch (11/6).

Wedding Anniversaries: Paul and Theresa Schneider (11/1), Elton and Angela Volquardsen (11/5).

Those who serve in the military: John Franklin (Minnesota National Guard); Jessica Franklin (Air Force);

Mark Meyle (Marines); Robert Haga (Marines) and Evon Ingraham (Army Reserves),

Thanksgiving for: Eunice Rankin's recovery from Covid-19, Luise Bollmeyer's return home from the hospital;

David Berger's successful brain surgery and prayers for his continued recovery.

Sarah (Scheler) Griffin's successful surgery for Thyroid cancer and prayers for her continued treatment.

Those in therapy: Karl Stemke, following a stroke

The sick:

Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS;

Jill Franklin, sister-in-law of Kent, recently diagnosed with breast cancer.

Bettirae Weber, suffering with liver cancer

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

Collect for All Saints' Day (November 1)

Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through 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

"For All the Saints" (St. 1-4)

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<p>Looking forward to the Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity</p> <p>Hymns: 852, 611, 815, 843, 606, 924</p> <p>Micah 6:6-8: "To love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God" is what the Lord says is good. It is a description of faith in Christ. To know Christ is to love mercy. To walk humbly with your God is to trust in Jesus by confessing one's sin and clinging to His forgiveness. To love mercy is to believe in it as the most important gift we have from God through Christ.</p> <p>Philippians 1:3-11: Paul speaks to the Philippians in thanksgiving to God for their "fellowship in the Gospel" with him. To have "fellowship in the Gospel" is to share the common faith in Christ for the forgiveness of sins by grace alone and not by the works of the Law. This "fellowship in the Gospel" is characterized by the life of mercy and unconditional love toward brothers and sisters within the household of faith that covers their sin with forgiveness that is freely and unbegrudgingly given.</p> <p>Matthew 18:21-35: The parable of the Unmerciful Servant teaches us that in the death of His Son, God has forgiven us a debt that we could not pay. This parable teaches the baptized that forgiveness for those who trespass against us flows from faith in Christ's undeserved forgiveness, and that the refusal to forgive those who trespass against us is a denial of faith in Christ and a rejection of His forgiveness. He forgives us freely by the merits of Jesus alone, that we might live in that free gift of forgiveness especially toward those who have sinned against us. Christians should be taught to expect such upheaval from within and without. As it was in the days of John the Baptist when multitudes were being brought to faith, so it will be in our own day.</p>	<p>November 8, 2020</p>
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