

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Fourth Sunday of Easter/Jubilate  
April 25 through May 2, 2021

**Catechesis Notes for the Week —Psalm 115—A Meditation on the Folly of Idolatry and the LORD’s Faithfulness—**Psalm 115 begins by ascribing all glory, honor, and truth to the LORD God who alone is God. The reason for the exclusive claim to glory that belongs to the Lord is His mercy and truth. He alone is God. He has no master. He does what He pleases. But He always acts in ways that are true to His nature and faithful to His Word. All other deities are false gods made in the image and likeness of mankind’s cravings and appetites. None of these so-called gods can truly satisfy, nor do they have any real power. Psalm 115 enjoins us to trust in the Lord, to believe that He is our help and our shield from every misfortune and from the ravages of sin and death. He acts according to His promises of salvation and He will never abandon His people. Though He is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe, yet in love He cares for us and provides for our lives and our salvation. For these reasons, the faithful believer need not fear. The Lord will bless those who fear Him, both small and great.

## The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess 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 Sorrow Will Be Turned to Joy!

### Invocation

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

### Apostles' Creed

#### Verse: John 14:6

“I am the way, the truth, and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

#### Psalm 115 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

**Prayer on the Psalm:** Lord God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You alone are God and to You belong all glory, honor, power, thanksgiving and praise. By Your Word and Spirit, grant us to trust in You with all our heart and to believe that You will provide for us and our children, both small and great; for You live and reign, Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

| Daily Psalms | Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday  | Saturday | Sunday   |
|--------------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| Morning      | 93       | 97       | 98      | 99        | 47       | 96      | 92       | 140, 141 |
| Evening      | 136, 117 | 124, 115 | 66, 116 | 8, 118    | 68, 113  | 50, 138 | 23, 114  | 142, 143 |

### Bible Readings for the Week:

|           | Bible Narrative  | Second Reading     |
|-----------|--|--------------------|
| Sunday    | <b>Sorrow Will Turn to Joy—John 16:16-22</b><br><b>St. Mark, Evangelist:</b> Mark 16:14-20 |                    |
| Monday    | Samuel Judges Israel—1 Samuel 7:2-17   | Colossians 1:19-29 |
| Tuesday   | Israel Demands a King—1 Samuel 8:1-22  | Colossians 2:1-10  |
| Wednesday | Saul Is Chosen to Be King—1 Samuel 9:1-6 (7-9) 10-24                                       | Colossians 2:11-17 |
| Thursday  | Saul Is Anointed King—1 Samuel 9:25—10:16  | Colossians 2:18-23 |
| Friday    | Saul Is Proclaimed King—1 Samuel 10:17-27  | Colossians 3:1-11  |
| Saturday  | <b>St. Philip and St. James, Apostles—John 14:1-14</b>                                     | James 1:16-21      |

### The Catechism: Table of Duties— To Wives

(Preschool children and everyone, review the primary texts of the fourth through tenth commandments.)

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| What does God's Word say of wives?<br>Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.  | Third Grade +<br>Ephesians 5:22 |
| [This is the way the holy women of the past<br>who put their hope in God<br>used to make themselves beautiful.]<br>They were submissive to their own husbands,<br>like Sarah,<br>who obeyed Abraham and called him her master.<br>You are her daughters<br>if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. | First Grade +<br>1 Peter 3:5-6  |

## **Prayers: Catechism Prayers, In Our Prayers at Peace, and the Collects for the Week**

### **Prayer for Wives**

O Lord Jesus, by Your Word and Spirit, fashion all Christian women into wives made in the image of Your bride the Church. Teach them to submit to their husbands as to You, their Lord and Savior. Give them hearts that trust in Your Word, honor their husbands, and look to them for love and spiritual headship. Deliver them from all fear and faithlessness. Where their husbands fail them, support them with Your grace and let them find their sufficiency in You. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

### **In Our Prayers this Week**

**Office of the Ministry:** Seminarian James Kirk who will receive his vicarage assignment this week.

Our own congregation as we deliberate on calling an ordained headmaster and associate pastor.

**Baptismal Birthdays:** Joe Schneider (4/25), Mary Lou Heise, David Uttenreither (4/27), Rachel Frerking (4/29), Laura Knoerr (4/30).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Pat and Sharon Murphy (4/25), Mark and Holly Schneider, Eric and Kayla Kütemeier (4/26), Bill and Marlene Schaefer (4/27), Mike and Angie Clark (4/29).

**The sick:** Paul Kowalczyk, Melody Ruhbusch's brother-in-law, recovering from a stroke; David Steinhilb undergoing cardiac testing; Kurt Ruhnau, Marcy Gall, Bernice Lemke, and Jim Weber recovering from recent hospitalizations; Barb Lavann, mother of Cheryl Gretzinger, in ICU at Waukesha Memorial Hospital recuperating from complications after back surgery; Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS.

**Cancer treatment:** Gabby Hartwig in treatment for childhood cancer; Rev. Timothy Kinne for multiple myeloma; Erwin Cabrera and Tom Pinzl for bladder cancer; Jim Nitzsche for lung cancer; Fr. Wokoma's daughter, Aburuyeba Amaso, and Jill Franklin for breast cancer; and Alison Witte.

**Hospice:** Roger Laubenstein.

### **Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Easter/Jubilate**

Almighty God, You show those in error the light of Your truth so that they may return to the way of righteousness. Grant faithfulness to all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Church that they may avoid whatever is contrary to their confession and follow all such things as are pleasing to You; 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 Saint Mark, Evangelist**

Almighty God, You have enriched Your Church with the proclamation of the Gospel through the evangelist Mark. Grant that we may firmly believe these glad tidings and daily walk according to Your Word; 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 Saints Philip and James, Apostles**

Almighty God, Your Son revealed Himself to Philip and James and gave them the knowledge of everlasting life. Grant us perfectly to know Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the way, the truth, and the life, and steadfastly to walk in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same 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**

#### **"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" (stanzas 1 and 4)**

**487**

#### **Looking forward to the Fifth Sunday of Easter / Cantate**

**May 2, 2021**

**Hymns:** 528, 556, 819, 484, 478, 488

**Isaiah 12:1-6:** This section of Isaiah records a great song in praise of the Lord for His salvation. This is the song of the faithful who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ and declared righteous for Jesus' sake. Like all faithful hymns and canticles, it extols the objective works of the Lord for our salvation and draws us outside ourselves to Him in confident faith and joyful praise of His salvation.

**James 1:16-21:** James speaks of the "implanted Word which is able to save your souls." The Spirit calls us by the Word of the Gospel to faith in Christ. He "implants" the Word in us. This is how the "conception" of the new life in Christ begins. The Spirit then brings about our new birth in Holy Baptism and we are the children of God. The life begun in us by the implanted Word moves us to turn away from all the filthiness of our unbelieving nature, because it is the life of Christ Himself in us—the Father's good and perfect gift.

**John 16:5-15:** Jesus teaches concerning the ministry of the Holy Spirit. "Unless the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin through the preaching of repentance, we cannot be turned from unbelief to faith in Christ. Without the conviction of sin, the sinner has no use for Christ. The death of Christ for the sins of the world is the righteousness of God. Man is sinner. The proclamation of the Gospel creates faith in Christ and declares us righteous for Jesus' sake. The proclamation of the forgiveness of sins for Jesus' sake is the heart of the Spirit's work. The judgment of God that the sinner is righteous for Christ's sake sets man free from the judgment of the Law that the devil uses to condemn the world. Since God forgives us all sin and declares us righteous for Jesus' sake as a gift of His grace, the devil cannot accuse us of sin or damn us to eternal death." (from Lutheran Catechesis p. 127)