

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Twentieth Sunday after Trinity  
October 17 through October 24, 2021*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 129: Commemorating the Lord's Deliverance of His People from Oppression—**  
Throughout her history, the Children of Israel had many who rose up against her. Often these enemies visited God's judgment upon Israel for her rebellion against the Lord, but that did not change the Lord's favorable disposition toward Israel. Israel was still His chosen one, and He did not tolerate the enemies of Israel to gloat over her, even when His judgment was visited upon her. Psalm 129, a psalm of Ascent, celebrates the Lord's faithfulness in delivering her from all her enemies. The whole congregation of Israel prayed as one man: "Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth," Let Israel now say — "Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth; yet they have not prevailed against me." The enemies of Israel were like farmers who plowed long furrows on her back, yet the Lord delivered her. Psalm 129 also claims the Lord's promise to "bless those who bless Israel and to curse those who curse her," by saying, "Let all those who hate Zion be put to shame and turned back." The promise of deliverance that the Lord made to the Old Testament Church applies to the New Testament Church today. In the end, God will vindicate His people who put their trust in Him. We pray for this daily, even as we accept the chastening of the Lord for our good.

## 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: O Lord, Deliver Us from Impenitence!

### Invocation

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

### Apostles' Creed

#### Verse: Isaiah 7:14

The Lord Himself will give you a sign:  
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,  
and shall call His name Immanuel.

#### Psalm 129 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

**Prayer on the Psalm:** O Lord, You promise to deliver Your holy Church from all her enemies. Grant us relief from persecution and suffering for the sake of the Gospel, and do not let the enemies of Your Church triumph over us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	115	117, 118	119:1-24	119:49-72	119:89-112	119:137-152	122, 123	125, 126
Evening	116	120, 121	119:25-48	119:73-88	119:113-136	119:153-176	124	127

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>The Parable of the Vineyard Tenants—Matthew 21:33-44</b>	
Monday	<b>No School—Fall Break—St. Luke, Evangelist—Luke 10:1-9</b>	2 Timothy 4:5-18
Tuesday	The House of Jeroboam and the Northern Kingdom—1 Kings 14:1-20	2 Thess. 1:1-12
Wednesday	The House of Rehoboam & the Southern Kingdom—1 Kings 14:21-31	2 Thess. 2:1-12
Thursday	King Ahab and the Drought—1 Kings 16:29-17:7	2 Thess. 2:13-17
Friday	The Prophet Elijah Goes to the Widow of Zarephath—1 Kings 17:8-24	2 Thess. 3:1-18
Saturday	Sunday's OT and Epistle—Genesis 1:1—2:3 <b>St James of Jerusalem—Acts 15:12-22a</b>	Ephesians 6:10-17

### The Catechism: The Creed— The Second Article

What is the Second Article of the Creed? <b>And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord...</b>	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**

Heavenly Father, You have given us Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary to redeem us from sin, death, and the power of the devil. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, taking all of the punishment that we deserved for our sin upon Himself. He descended into hell, proclaiming His victory over the devil; and on the third day He rose again from the dead, preaching the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life in His name to the whole world. We give thanks to You for all that Your Son has done for us. Help us to know and believe in Jesus. He has now ascended into heaven and sits at Your right hand as our Savior and Lord. All the enemies of sin, death, and hell have been placed under His feet and He now rules over all things for the sake of His Church. Give us fervent faith in Jesus and the blessed hope that He will come again to judge the living and the dead, giving the gift of eternal salvation to all who believe in Him; through the same 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**

**The Office of the Ministry:** *The Lord's guidance and blessing upon our calling of an Associate Pastor and Headmaster.*

**Baptismal Birthdays:** *Kathy May, Brian Brendel (10/23).*

**Wedding Anniversaries:** *Mike and Angela Christopherson, Andrew and Jessica Alvarez (10/18), Brad and Jenny Larson (10/22).*

**Thanksgiving for healing and sustaining grace:** *For all those recovering from Covid.*

**The Sick:** *Brett Arnold, friends of the Trapps, hospitalized with complication following kidney transplant surgery; Jim Nitzsche, Jeremy LaFore, Luise Bollmeyer in continued care;*

**Cancer treatment:** *Gabby Hartwig (childhood cancer), Aburuyeba Amaso (breast cancer), James Loker (liver cancer), Barb Wieting (cancer testing).*

### **Collect for the Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**

O Lord, grant to Your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve You with a quiet mind; 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. Luke, Evangelist (October 18)**

Almighty God, our Father, Your blessed Son called Luke the physician to be an evangelist and physician of the soul. Grant that the healing medicine of the Gospel and the Sacraments may put to flight the diseases of our souls that with willing hearts we may ever love and serve 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 St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of Jesus and Martyr (October 23)**

Heavenly Father, shepherd of Your people, You raised up James the Just, brother of our Lord, to lead and guide Your Church. Grant that we may follow his example of prayer and reconciliation and be strengthened by the witness of his death; 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**

#### **"Salvation Unto Us Has Come" (stanzas 1-5)**

555

#### **Looking forward to the Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity**

**October 24, 2021**

**Hymns:** 555 (1-5), 607, 555 (6-9), 801, 578, 555 (10)

**Genesis 1:1-2:3:** "God SAID, and it was so..." "God CALLED" exercising His gracious dominion. "God SAID" it was very good..." All of creation rests upon God's life-creating and life-sustaining Word. Apart from the Word of God nothing was made that was made; and by the Word of God all things continue to be sustained. God grant us faith to receive His Word, to rejoice in its life-giving and saving gifts, and to delight above all things to hear it preached and taught for the preservation of our life and salvation in Christ.

**Ephesians 6:10-17:** St. Paul describes the armor of a Christian and our one offensive weapon. Each of these items of a Christian's armor—the girded waist with truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shod feet with the Gospel of peace, the shield of faith, and the helmet of salvation—are all images that reflect what the strong Word of the Gospel gives to us. And the only "offensive weapon" we have is "the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." Let us take up these gifts of God's Word and rest confidently in their protection.

**John 4:46-54:** The miracle of the healing of the nobleman's son teaches us that the Lord Jesus is present wherever His Word is faithfully preached and that His Word delivers to us His salvation. Human reason wants to rely upon signs, but even when signs are given, still the sinful flesh does not want to believe. Only the Word can create faith. Only the Word can deliver the blessings of Christ's salvation. When the nobleman came to Jesus he was desperate. His son lay at the point of death. He wanted Jesus to come into his home and save him. Jesus did exactly that by the Word He spoke: "Go your way; your son lives." That Word was true and delivered life to his son, even though he was not at home "to see" the results. The father later learned that his son was alive and that he was healed at the very moment that Jesus spoke the Word. This is what we are called to believe throughout our lives. Not only is the Word of Christ alone the source of our salvation and the object of our faith; but the Word of Christ alone gives certainty, takes away doubt, and comforts the soul of the Christian.