

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Sixth Sunday of Easter/Rogate
May 22 through May 29, 2022*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 47: A Prayer on the Ascension of Our Lord—Psalm 47 is traditionally prayed in celebration of the Ascension of Our Lord. After Jesus has defeated sin, death, and the power of the devil through His suffering and death upon the cross, God the Father highly exalted Him and seated Him at His right hand, placing all His enemies under His feet. Christ continues to reign over all things at the Father’s right hand for the sake of His Church and He will come again in glory to receive His bride to Himself. So we sing with the psalmist: “God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding. God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.”

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 Lord Has Ascended in Triumph for His Church!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Psalm 47 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: (See the Collect for the Ascension of Our Lord on the next page).

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	37	40	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56	59
Evening	38	39, 41	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55	57, 58

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	“Pray in My Name”—John 16:23-33	
Monday	Jesus Cleanses a Leper—Luke 5:12-16	Ecclesiastes 6:1-12
Tuesday	Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralytic—Luke 5:17-26	Ecclesiastes 7:1-29
Wednesday	Matthew the Tax Collector—Luke 5:27-32	Ecclesiastes 8:1-17
Thursday	Fasting and the Sabbath—Luke 5:33-39 Ascension of Our Lord—Luke 24:44-53	Ecclesiastes 9:1-18
Friday	Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath—Luke 6:1-11	Ecclesiastes 10:1-20
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Ezekiel 36:22-28	1 Peter 4:7-14

The Catechism: Table of Duties — To Widows; To Everyone

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

What does God’s Word say to widows? The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help.	Third Grade + 1 Timothy 5:5
But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives.	Fourth Grade + 1 Timothy 5:6
What does God’s Word say to everyone? The commandments ... are summed up in this one rule: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”	First Grade + Romans 13:9
I urge ... that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone.	Second Grade + 1 Timothy 2:1

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

Prayer for Everyone

O Lord, as You have loved us in place of Yourself and thereby fulfilled all of God’s Law on our behalf, teach us to walk by faith in Your love in all that we do, to live in love and self-sacrifice toward others in our callings, and to pray for everyone in need, seeking not our own glory but the welfare and salvation of our neighbor; in Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Prayer for Widows

Heavenly Father, comfort all widows who have lost their husbands and are left all alone. Give them strength and courage to put their hope in You and to cry out to You for help night and day. In their loneliness and sorrow, draw them closer to Your Divine Services and deliver them from the temptation to seek fulfillment from the pleasures of life that can never truly satisfy. Teach them to believe that they have a sacred calling as widows to live by faith in the greater Bridegroom, who has laid down His life for His bride and in whom alone are pleasures forevermore, 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 Lord's blessing upon Seminarian Brennick Christiansen, and his family, called to be our Associate Pastor and Headmaster.

Baptismal Birthdays: Autumn Walentoski (5/23), Jordan Fischer (5/24), Cheryl Piper (5/28).

Wedding Anniversaries: Mark and Julie Goltermann (5/22), Matthew and Betty Voss (5/26), Frank and Rosie Koplring, Jody and Rebecca Ligrow (5/28).

Stacey, friend of Paul Woehrmann, for strength to manage increased responsibilities of caring for her recently widowed mother in addition to her vocation of wife, mother, and worker.

The Sick: Rev. Gary Gehlbach with a kidney stone; Jeanne Scholz recovering from shoulder replacement surgery; Rev. Wolf Knappe recovering from a fractured shoulder; Jim Weber at the Pavilion Care Center in Slinger; John Paul Beine, in extended therapy following a head injury; Amy Bruss, in extended therapy following a stroke; James Loker and Josiah Boehringer in cancer treatment. Todd Fredrich diagnosed with liver cancer. Jill Franklin, recovering from spinal fusion surgery.

Hospice Care: Cliff Evans, Dr. Roland "Cap" Ehlke.

For Those Who Mourn: The family of Nancy Thiele and Alex Carus, who mourn their deaths.

The people of Ukraine: wisdom and guidance for the governments of the world in dealing with the crisis of Russia's invasion.

Collect for the Sixth Sunday of Easter/Rogate

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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 the Ascension of Our Lord (May 26)

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, 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

"Hear Us, Father, When We Pray" (stanzas 1-4)

773

Looking forward to the Seventh Sunday of Easter/ Exaudi

May 29, 2022

Hymns: 491, 539, 538, 754, 768, 492

Ezekiel 36:22-28: The prophet Ezekiel catechizes us on the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit sanctifies us by the Word of God, so that we "hallow God's holy name" by calling upon it in every time of need. The Holy Spirit sanctifies us by the Word of God, so that we do not profane God's name but live faithfully in this vale of tears. The Holy Spirit sanctifies by the Word of God in baptism by "sprinkling clean water on us, cleansing us from all our filthiness ... and giving us a new heart and putting a new spirit within us." It is the Spirit, through the divine Word who "takes our heart of stone out of our flesh and gives us a heart of flesh" so that we walk faithfully in the Lord's Word.

1 Peter 4:7-14: The Apostle Peter encourages the Church in the face of suffering. The "fiery trial" of suffering is not "strange" to us if we know what the Bible teaches about the condition of the sinful heart. It is to be expected. Such suffering and persecution that we endure because of our confession of faith should be interpreted as a reason to rejoice because it means that we belong to Christ and, that by enduring such persecution in love for our enemies, we bear witness to the love of God in Christ. "Rejoice ... be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you."

John 15:26—16:4: On the Seventh Sunday of Easter, Jesus' catechesis directs us to the ministry of the Holy Spirit who was poured out upon the apostles on Pentecost. The Spirit is called the Helper or Comforter because His work is to minister the strength and comfort of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to us. The Holy Spirit will make it possible for the apostles and the Church to endure suffering and persecution without falling away from Christ. The Holy Spirit is also called the "Spirit of Truth" because He "testifies" through the Word of God to the truth of who we are, of who Christ is, and of what Jesus has done in love for our salvation. By the testimony of the Spirit alone, sinners are called to repentance and faith in Christ. Jesus also instructed His apostles that persecution is coming for the Church, so that when they experience the persecution they will not stumble and fall away from their faith in Christ. It is an amazing phenomenon that the message of ultimate love and comfort for sinners—the Gospel of Jesus Christ—should be met with such violent hatred. The hatred of impenitent unbelief can be so great that those who persecute Christians and put them to death actually live under the delusion that they are rendering God a service. In spite of such bitter hatred and persecution, Jesus teaches us that the Holy Spirit not only makes it possible for us to endure such suffering, but that through such persecution the Church and her ministers also testify to the suffering and death of Jesus as the source of salvation for the world.