

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity  
November 8 through November 15, 2020*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 98 — A Psalm of Rejoicing in Christ's Salvation**—Psalm 98 is a psalm that rejoices in Christ's salvation. Jesus is the Father's "right hand" and "holy arm"! He gained the victory over sin, death, and the power of Satan by His suffering and death upon the cross. In the preaching of the Gospel, "the Lord has made known His salvation" and the "righteousness" of Christ He proclaims to the nations for their salvation. By the death, resurrection, and preaching of the Gospel of Christ, the Lord openly shows His salvation to the nations and proclaims this salvation to the ends of the earth. Psalm 98 overflows with the expression of joy, singing, and joyful music in praise of the Lord whose salvation moves the earth. Even the creation is involved in the proclamation of the Gospel and in anticipation of the future coming of our Lord Jesus Christ who will "judge the earth" according to the "righteousness of His cross."

## **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: Be of Good Cheer! I Forgive You Your Debt!**

### **Invocation**

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

### **Apostles' Creed**

**Verse: 1 Corinthians 12:3**

**No one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed,  
and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.**

**Psalm 98 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.**

**Prayer on the Psalm:** O Lord, in the new song of the Gospel of Your Son, You proclaim eternal life and salvation from all sin, death, and punishment by the gift of Your grace. Forgive us our sins for Jesus' sake and grant to us the joy of Your salvation that we might joyfully shout the praises of the Lord in all the earth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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	135	137, 138	140, 141	144	147	148	1, 2	5
Evening	136	139	142, 143	145	146	149, 150	3	4, 6

### **Bible Readings for the Week:**

	<b>Bible Narrative</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>
Sunday	<b>The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant—Matthew 18:21-35</b>	
Monday	Ehud, Israel's Left-Handed Judge—Judges 3:12-30 (31)	Ephesians 4:1-6
Tuesday	Deborah the Prophetess Judges Israel—Judges 4:1-24	Ephesians 4:7-16
Wednesday	The Angel of the Lord Appears to Gideon—Judges 6:1 (2-5) 6, 11-27	Ephesians 4:17-24
Thursday	The Sign of the Fleece—Judges 6:28-40	Ephesians 4:25-32
Friday	The Lord Gives Victory to Gideon with 300 Men—Judges 7:1-23	Ephesians 5:1-7
Saturday	The Excellence of Wisdom—Proverbs 8:11-22	Ephesians 5:8-14

### **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 +

*What does this mean?*

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.

First Grade +

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.

Second Grade +

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

#### **Prayer on the Third Article**

*O Holy Spirit, we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord, or come to Him. Call us to faith in Jesus by the Gospel, enlighten us every day with Your gifts of baptism, absolution, and the Lord's Supper; and sanctify and keep us and the whole Christian Church on earth with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. Forgive us our sins every day and give us the blessed hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

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

**Baptismal Birthdays:** Donna Lovas (11/7), Mark Meyle, Alia Fischer, Autumn Christopherson (11/9), Zoe LaFore (11/10), Derek Larson (11/11), Isaac Alvarez, Reese DiPuma, Hailee Dipuma (11/13).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Lyle and Jan Wollin (11/7), Matthew and Verla Gatchell (11/12).

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

**Those in therapy:** Karl Stemke, following a stroke

#### **The sick:**

Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS;

David Berger's for his continued recovery after a second brain surgery.

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

Sara (Scheler) Griffin for her continued treatment for Thyroid cancer.

Bettirae Weber, suffering with liver cancer.

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

#### **Collect for the Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity**

*O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; 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**

**"As Surely as I Live," God Said (St. 1-4)**

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

**November 15, 2020**

**Hymns:** 791, 714, 755, 674, 639, 548

**Proverbs 8:11-22:** This Old Testament reading teaches us about "wisdom" and "personifies" wisdom as if he is a person. Of course, this wisdom is personified in the person of Christ. "Wisdom" has guided kings and the course of human history. At the heart of Solomon's catechesis is the assertion that "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil." This helps to define the meaning of Psalm 111:10, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." At the heart of the fear of the Lord is "to hate evil!" This is what faith in Christ gives us. Where there is "fear of the Lord" there is "the hatred of evil" and of all that is contrary to God's Word.

**Philippians 3:17-21:** Paul's words condemn the power-hungry Pharisees who use the pretense of "obedience to the law" as a means to satisfy the appetites of their bellies. In place of such folly, Paul directs us to remember that our citizenship is in heaven and that we eagerly await our Savior and the resurrection of our bodies from the dead.

**Matthew 22:15-22:** The Pharisees did not really care about morality or doing what was right in the eyes of God. They only cared about power and influence. The Pharisees were political animals, so they questioned Jesus about whether it was lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not. All their flattery of Jesus was nothing more than a ruse. They hated Him and they hated what He preached. Jesus out-dueled the rhetoric of the Pharisees. He perceived their wickedness. He asked to see the tax money and asked them about whose inscription appeared on the coin. It was the inscription of Caesar! All the boasting and coveting of the Pharisees for political power could not change the fact that the Romans ruled, and the Pharisees had no real power at all. How wonderful! Jesus' reply silenced them. They hoped to trap Him in a contradiction. Will He show loyalty to Rome or loyalty to the government? His answer carefully showed proper obedience to both: "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." Matthew records that even the Pharisees who hated Jesus marveled at His words. He silenced them. He gave all honor to God at the same time He acknowledged the proper place of the civil authority. In this Gospel, Jesus shows Himself to be superior to all political authority as He gives honor and glory to God without compromise and acknowledges that God works through the civil authorities to accomplish His purposes.