

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the First Sunday after Trinity  
June 6 through June 13, 2021*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 119:17-32—Meditations upon God’s Word—The Gimel section of Psalm 119 teaches us that God deals bountifully with us through His Word. Throughout the entire psalm there are many words that refer to God’s Word. In this section, word, law, commandments, judgments, testimonies, and statutes are all references to God’s Word as the fountain and source of all blessings from the Lord. Each of these words describes the nuances associated with the blessings that God’s Word gives. The believer longs to hear God’s Word and delights in it. God’s Word gives us understanding and turns us away from covetous desires. God’s Word is our counselor. Though persecuted by the proud and political on account of God’s Word, the believer holds fast to the Word.**

**The Daleth section of psalm 119 teaches us that God’s Word is that which revives our soul. When we are separated from God’s Word our soul clings to the dust and melts from heaviness. God’s Word strengthens us in the way of truth, the certainty of God’s Word and protects us from the lying way. In this section, word, statutes, precepts, way of truth, judgments, testimonies, and commandments are the references to God’s Word. God’s Word fortifies our hearts against attacks upon our faith. The psalmist petitions the Lord not to be put to shame for holding fast to His Word, a petition He most surely hears and answers.**

## 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: We Are Beggars before God!

### Invocation

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

### Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Genesis 15:6

[Abram] believed in the LORD,  
and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

Psalm 119: Gimel and Daleth and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord; make Your Word the delight of my heart and soul. Revive me by Your truth when my heart grows weak. Strengthen me by Your judgments, precepts, and testimonies against the proud and those who seek to destroy my faith. Deliver me from the path of lying, and establish my feet in the way of truth; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	85	88	89	91	92	95, 96	98, 100	101
Evening	86	87	90	93	94	97	99	102

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Rich Man and Lazarus—Luke 16:19-31	
Monday	An Angel Frees the Apostles from Prison—Acts 5:17-42	Joel 2:28-32
Tuesday	The Choosing of the Seven—Acts 6:1-7	Joel 3:1-11
Wednesday	Stephen Is Accused of Blasphemy—Acts 6:8—7:16	Joel 3:12-21
Thursday	Stephen Bears Witness Before the Sanhedrin—Acts 7:17-36	Jonah 1:1-16
Friday	The Martyrdom of Stephen—Acts 7:37-60	Jonah 1:17—2:10
	St. Barnabas, Apostle—Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3	
Saturday	The Ministry of Philip—Acts 8:1-13	Jonah 3:1-10

### The Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism—Part III

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water.

For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism.

But with the word of God, it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

Third Grade +

He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,	Kindergarten +
so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. [Titus 3:5-8]	First Grade +
	Second Grade +

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

**Prayer Concerning the Power of Baptism**

Heavenly Father, You teach us that the Word of God in and with the water does great things, working forgiveness of sins, rescuing us from death and the devil, and giving us the gift of eternal salvation. Without Your Word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with Your Word our Baptism is life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit. Thank You for this precious teaching. Forgive us all doubt. Grant us firm faith to trust Your Word in the water, that every blessing of Baptism may be ours; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**In Our Prayers this Week**

**The Office of the Ministry:** The Lord's guidance and blessing on calling an ordained Headmaster/Associate Pastor.

**Baptismal Birthdays:** Pat Rothe (6/7), Marty Bruss (6/8), Jennifer Gretzinger (6/9), Jim Miller, Lisa LaFore (6/12).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Pete and Brenda Greschner, Dale and Kim Stratil (6/6), Tyler and Rachel Haga (6/8),

Jim and Mary Nitsche (6/10), Paul and Sue Kachelmeyer (6/11).

**The sick:** Ed Lemke hospitalized for medical testing; Donna Lovas in rehab with a broken wrist after a fall; Paul Schneider recovering from heart surgery; Rev. Jon Leider recovering from a stroke and recent seizures; Frank Koplting recovering from abdominal surgery; Luise Bollmeyer, recuperating at home; Barb Lavann, mother of Cheryl Gretzinger, recuperating from a second back surgery and several strokes; Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS.

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

**Collect for the First Sunday after Trinity**

O God, the strength of all who trust in You, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing, grant us Your grace to keep Your commandments that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Collect for St. Barnabas, Apostle**

Almighty God, Your faithful servant Barnabas sought not his own renown but gave generously of his life and substance for the encouragement of the apostles and their ministry. Grant that we may follow his example in lives given to charity and the proclamation of the Gospel; through Your Son, 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**

**"To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray"**

**768**

**Looking forward to the Second Sunday after Trinity**

**June 13, 2021**

**Hymns: TLH 319, 510, 635, 536, 823, 523**

**Proverbs 9:1-10:** Repentance, which is a word describing the character of saving faith, involves a "change of mind" or a "different way of believing" about oneself and one's Lord. It involves the letting go of the self as god because of the belief in one's sin, and the laying hold of Christ as God because He is the only Savior. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

**Ephesians 2:13-22:** St. Paul teaches concerning the Church and the fellowship of Jew and Gentile together. The Jews and the Gentiles were formerly estranged from one another, but by the blood of Christ the two who were at enmity are now reconciled to each other by the forgiveness of sins. This reconciliation of grace that we share from our Lord has broken down both the wall of partition separating sinners from each other and the wall of partition separating us from God.

**Luke 14:15-24:** The parable of the Great Supper teaches us that the call of the Gospel to receive salvation in Christ is like an invitation which is rejected because people have "more important things to do." These "things" are really the false faiths of the flesh. They represent the idolatry of the sinful heart that believes in works or any other "god" for its life and salvation. If those who rejected would have believed in their true need for God's salvation, they would have received the invitation with joy. Those who are helpless and needy receive the invitation and believe the Gospel. Those who believe they have no need reject the invitation and are excluded from salvation.