

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Sixth Sunday after Trinity
July 11 through July 18, 2021

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 119: Mem and Nun—Meditations on the Word of God—In the Mem section of Psalm 119, the psalmist boasts of wisdom and understanding, but it is not a wisdom and understanding of his own doing, it is a gift of God’s Word: “Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies...I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients because I keep Your precepts.” The Word of God, received in faith and meditated upon throughout one’s life, creates the miracle of godly wisdom and understanding that transcends the most erudite scholar on earth. To God be the glory! This section also speaks of the Word of God as food that is sweeter than honey. In this section, law, commandments, testimonies, precepts, and word are references to God’s Word. **The Nun section of Psalm 119 begins with one of the most frequently quoted verses from the entire psalm: “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” This verse, linked with Jesus’ promise, “I am the way, the truth, and the life” teach us that the pathway of salvation is found only in Christ who comes to us by His Word. It is Christ who revives us when we are afflicted. It is Christ who opens our hearts to give freewill offerings and to confess His name. Though many dangers overtake us and the wicked lay snares to entrap us, the testimonies of the Lord deliver us every day of our lives. In this section, word, judgments, law, precepts, testimonies, and statutes are references to the Word of God.**

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: Christ’s Righteousness Saves!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Matthew 5:20

Unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Psalm 119: Mem and Nun and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord Jesus, Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Your Word is sweeter than honey. It revives our soul and protects us from every enemy. By Your Word, make us wiser than all earthly teaches and give us Your peace and protection from every hardship and adversity; for You live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	19, 20	22	26, 27	30	32	33	35	37
Evening	21	23, 24	25	28, 29	31	34	36	38

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Greater Righteousness—Matthew 5:17-26	
Monday	The Miracles Worked by Paul—Acts 19:11-20	Romans 9:14-30
Tuesday	The Riot at Ephesus—Acts 19:21-41	Romans 10:1-13
Wednesday	Eutychus Falls from a Window at Troas—Acts 20:1-16	Romans 10:14-21
Thursday	Paul Preaches Farewell to the Ephesian Elders—Acts 20:17-38	Romans 11:1-10
Friday	Paul Returns to Jerusalem—Acts 21:1-17	Romans 11:11-21
Saturday	Paul Is Arrested in the Temple—Acts 21:18-36	Romans 11:22-36

The Catechism: The Creed— The Second Article

What is the Second Article of the Creed?

Preschool +

And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord...

What does this mean?

First Grade +

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,

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 on calling an ordained Headmaster/Associate Pastor, and Pastor Bender on the anniversary of his ordination (7/12).*

Baptismal Birthdays: Harold Kampin, Grace Kirk (7/11); Laura Ferguson, Kara Rhode (7/13); Meghan Krueger (7/14); Ryder Richards (7/16).

Wedding Anniversaries: Larry and Toni Garms (7/15).

The sick: Rev. Jon Leider hospitalized for treatment because of strokes; Kevin Kehres, in rehab recovering from pneumonia; Mary McMiller, recuperating from knee surgery; Jeremy LaFore and his family as he battles ALS.

Cancer treatment: James Loker, friend of the congregation, diagnosed with liver cancer; Tom Pinzl recuperating from major bladder surgery; Gabby Hartwig continuing treatment for childhood cancer; Rev. Timothy Kinne, Erwin Cabrera, Jim Nitzsche, Aburuyeba Amaso, Jill Franklin, and Alison Witte in various stages of cancer treatment.

Collect for the Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in the same; 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"

555

Looking forward to the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

July 18, 2021

Hymns: 566, 819, 622, 642, 559, 616

Genesis 2:7-17: *The prophet Moses teaches us that we were created by God from the dust of the earth. Our life comes from the Word of God. The Tree of Life gave life according to God's promise, but man chose to turn away from that tree and go his own way. This is the origin of all sin and death. Christ redeems us from the curse by being lifted up upon the tree of the cross.*

Romans 6:19-23: *St. Paul teaches that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Mark 8:1-9: *Jesus is the bread of life. In the miracle of the feeding of the 4,000, He shows Himself to be the Savior of all people and the source of all life and salvation. The numbers in this story are not insignificant. Numbers in the Bible have familiar usages. The number seven is often God's number of perfection and is often associated with the Holy Spirit, His seven-fold gifts of grace, and the Church which is formed from every tribe and nation of people. The number four is often associated with the earth, sometimes spoken of as having "four corners"—north, south, east, and west—from which all the people of Christ's Church will come. The number ten is often the number of God's providential completeness in His dealings upon this earth. He does just the right things in just the right ways, etc. The number three refers to the Holy Trinity, Holy Baptism, and the Baptismal character of our faith, that we were buried with Him who was raised the third day. Therefore, by the use of the number three and the number seven multiplied ten times over, this miracle teaches that Jesus is Lord, the Holy One of God, the perfect and only savior of sinners who has provided salvation to the four corners of the earth.*