

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of the Reformation

October 31 through November 7, 2021

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 131: A Prayer of Simple Trust in the Lord—This short psalm of Ascents speaks of the simplicity of faith, comparing the believer to a weaned child who remains dependent upon his mother. As Christians, we are to live within our vocations. We are not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought. We are not to occupy ourselves with great matters or things that are too profound for us. We are to commend ourselves and our whole life to Christ, our Lord. To live in the humility of faith is not to dictate to God what He must do, but rather to receive from Him what He gives and to hope confidently in Him.

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: The Righteous Shall Live by Faith in Christ Alone!

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: Romans: 10:17

**Faith comes by hearing,
and hearing by the word of God.**

Psalm 131 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, deliver me from haughtiness. Do not let me concern myself with matters that are too great for me or with things over which I have no control. Give me the trust of a child who trusts in his mother for everything, and teach me to hope in You from this time forth and forever; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	147	148	1, 2	5	8, 9	10	14, 15	18
Evening	146	149, 150	3	4, 6	7	11, 12	13	16, 17

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Kingdom of God Suffers Violence—Matt. 11:12-19	
Monday	The LORD Condemns Ahab—1 Kings 21:17-29 All Saints' Day —Matthew 5:1-12	1 Cor. 4:14—5:8
Tuesday	Elijah Ascends to Heaven—2 Kings 2:1-15	1 Cor. 5:9—6:11
Wednesday	Elisha Performs Miracles—2 Kings 2:19-25	1 Cor. 6:12-20
Thursday	Elisha and the Water from Edom—2 Kings 3:1-27	1 Cor. 7:1-24
Friday	Elisha and the Widow's Oil—2 Kings 4:1-7	1 Cor. 7:25-40
Saturday	Sunday's OT and Epistle—Job 14:1-6	1 Thess. 4:13-18

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, who proceeds from the Father and the Son to give life and salvation to the world, and who, together with the Father and the Son, we worship and glorify as the only true God, receive our thanks and praise for proclaiming Christ to us through the preaching of the Gospel and gifts of the holy sacraments. Faith in Jesus Christ our Savior, hope in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, and love for God and our enemies are all Your creations and gifts to us through the forgiveness of sins in Jesus. Preserve the holy Christian Church among us through the faithful preaching of the Gospel and the right administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Bless the communion of saints that every baptized Christian, sharing in Christ's love through His forgiveness, might abide in Christ and bear witness to His love in all that we do and say. Give us firm hope in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, so that we might faithfully endure persecution for Jesus' sake and suffer all, even death itself, rather than fall away from Him who gave His life for us. Hear us, O Holy Spirit, for You live and reign with the Father and the Son, 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: *Rev. Robert Johnson (11/1), John Uttenreither (11/2), Nancy LaFore (11/5).*

Wedding Anniversaries: *Paul and Theresa Schneider (11/1), Elton and Angela Volquardsen (11/5).*

Thanksgiving for the birth of a healthy baby girl, *Caroline, to Kayla and Eric Kütemeier.*

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; Else Schulz, mother of Anne Schumacher who suffered a stroke; Tom Pinzl recovering from surgery for a blocked kidney; Jeremy LaFore, and Luise Bollmeyer in continued care.*

Cancer treatment: *Gabby Hartwig (childhood cancer), Aburuyeba Amaso (breast cancer), Jim Nitzsche (lung cancer), James Loker (liver cancer).*

Collect for the Reformation (October 31)

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; 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 All Saints' Day (November 1)

Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through 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

"Oh, How Blest Are They Whose Toils Are Ended" (stanzas 1, 4, 5)

679

Looking forward to the Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity

November 7, 2021

Hymns: 613, 658, 513, 820, 351, 509

Job 14:1-6: *Job presents a sober yet realistic assessment of man. We cannot determine the length of our days. Sinners cannot take away their own sin. "Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? No one." Our days are few in number and we are under God whether we believe in Him or not. God sets the limits of our life and the length of our days. Only He can redeem the sinner and give purpose and meaning to our lives. In humble faith we submit ourselves to Christ, our only Savior.*

I Thessalonians 4:13-18: *Paul comforts us in the grief over the death of Christians by pointing us to the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of all the dead when Christ returns again in glory. The first to be resurrected are those Christians who have already died in the Lord. After that, those Christians who are living on earth at the time of Jesus' Second Coming will also rise to immortality and incorruption. Then we will be caught up with the Lord and ever remain with Him in His eternal comfort.*

Luke 17:20-30: *It is of great comfort to know that the Kingdom of God is not like any earthly kingdom that can be seen and observed with its civil rulers, great armies, or vast lands. Instead, the Kingdom of God is what Holy Scripture and the Catechism teach: "when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His Holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity." The kingdom of God is the gift of faith in Christ that is created and preserved throughout the world in the hearts of Christians, wherever the Gospel is preached and the Sacraments are administered. This kingdom can never be destroyed by the kingdoms of this world. We live in this faith and confidence and because of this we have the blessed hope in Christ's Second Coming in which the nations will all see that Jesus is Lord. In the meantime, it looks as if the Church is being destroyed. There will be persecution and suffering for the Kingdom of God, just as Jesus suffered before entering into glory. There will be false Christs and false prophets, but we are not to follow them. We follow the crucified and risen Savior. As it was in the days of Noah and Lot, so it will be before the coming of our Lord in glory. But our Lord will come again and we shall rejoice in Him whose victory upon the cross has brought resurrection and eternal life from the dead.*