

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity
November 7 through November 14, 2021*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 132: A Prayer for the Lord to Dwell with His Church—Psalm 132 begins with recalling how David would not rest until he had provided for the tabernacle of the Lord and the Ark of the Covenant where the Old Testament believers would worship and receive the Lord’s saving gifts. For us in the New Testament Church, Christ is the Tabernacle of the Lord’s saving presence. He promises to be found where His Word is preached, and His sacraments are administered. He has made precious promises to His holy Christian Church and to each member of the communion of saints. As the Lord was faithful to David and His place of rest in Zion, so the Lord is faithful to us. The testimony of the Lord in the Gospel of Christ is certain. His priests are clothed with His righteousness. He grants rest and refreshment to His saints who shout for joy in His presence. Like the Old Testament saints who prayed this Psalm of Ascents as they approached the Lord’s tabernacle, we know that when we enter into the house of the Lord that Jesus Himself is present with His good gifts and Spirit.

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 Kingdom of God Is Hidden in the Word and Faith

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 1 Corinthians 15:22

**For as in Adam all die,
even so in Christ all shall be made alive.**

Psalm 132 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, in the midst of all our afflictions preserve a hiding place for us in the Divine Service where Your Word is faithfully preached, and Your life-giving Sacraments are generously provided for our help and comfort. Grant Your holy Church every provision that we need to support us in our earthly pilgrimage, through Jesus Christ, 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	18	19, 20	22	26, 27	30	32	33	35
Evening	16, 17	21	23, 24	25	28, 29	31	34	36

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Coming of the Kingdom—Luke 17:20-30	
Monday	Elisha Raises the Shunammite’s Son—2 Kings 4:8-37	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Tuesday	Elisha Feeds His People—2 Kings 4:38-44	1 Corinthians 9:1-27
Wednesday	Elisha and the Floating Axehead—2 Kings 6:1-7	1 Corinthians 10:1-22
Thursday	Elisha Escapes the Arameans—2 Kings 6:8-23	1 Cor. 10:23—11:1
Friday	Famine in Besieged Samaria—2 Kings 6:24–7:20	1 Corinthians 11:1-16
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Daniel 7:9-14	2 Peter 3:3-14

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

The Office of the Ministry: *The Lord's guidance and blessing upon our calling of an Associate Pastor and Headmaster.*

Baptism: Caroline Grace Kütemeier, daughter of Eric and Kayla Kütemeier, baptized on 11/7/21.

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

Thanksgiving: *The birth of Mason James, great-grandson of Louise Bollmeyer.*

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

The Sick: Karen Leach, mother of Peggy Lundberg, suffering with spinal compression fractures; Brett Arnold, friends of the Trapps, hospitalized with complication following kidney transplant surgery; Tom Pinzl undergoing further surgery for a blocked kidney and hernia; 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), Josiah Boehringer, nephew of Beth Boehringer.

Mourning: Betty and Matthew Voss, mourn the miscarriage of their unborn child.

Collect for the Twenty Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, we implore You, show Your mercy to Your humble servants that we, who put no trust in our own merits, may not be dealt with after the severity of Your judgment but according to Your mercy; 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

"How Can I Thank You, Lord" (stanzas 1-2)

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Looking forward to the Twenty-sixth Sunday after Trinity

November 14, 2021

Hymns: 355, 508, 348, 719, 621, 673

Daniel 7:9-14: *Daniel sees into the future a vision of the final judgment. The glorious image of God the Father, the Ancient of Days, is seated upon His throne. "One like the Son of Man"—our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son—will come with the clouds to the Ancient of Days and receive from the Father eternal glory and dominion. In that day, "all peoples, nations, and languages" will worship Christ and His kingdom will never pass away.*

2 Peter 3:3-14: *The Apostle Peter could not be more accurate in describing the very times in which we live. There are scoffers who think that what Christians believe concerning Christ and His Second Coming are utter nonsense. They look at how the world has continued, century after century, and they reject any notion of the existence of God or the truthfulness of Christ's promises to His Church. Peter asserts that the Word of God that brought the heavens into existence and that created and recreated the world through water will keep His promises. The eternal God of salvation has a different timetable from finite men. "With the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." He will keep His promises to us. The world continues until just the right time of Christ's return, because He is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. Peter encourages us to "look up" and to wait patiently for Christ's return, knowing that in that day both the heavens and the earth will be transformed in which the righteousness of Christ will endure forever.*

Matthew 25:31-46: *Jesus gives us a picture of the last judgment. When He returns in glory with all His holy angels, He will sit upon the throne of His glory, all nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate believers in Christ (the sheep) from unbelievers (the goats). Believers in Christ will hear the result of Christ's forgiveness that they have believed: "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Unbelievers, who have rejected Christ and despised His forgiveness, will hear: "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and all His angels." In the picture Jesus paints, both the sheep and the goats are shocked that Jesus draws attention to what they have or have not done. Since Christians do not trust in their works for salvation, they are shocked when Jesus refers to them in the judgment. Since unbelievers DO trust in their works, they are shocked to hear that they have done nothing deserving of salvation. Works do not save us, but they do testify to the faith of our heart. The works that are truly "good works" are those done entirely out of faith in God's mercy in Christ. These works are not produced by our own goodness or moral strength; rather, they are the fruits of God's good work of love and forgiveness that we have received. Since they are the fruits of faith—a faith that is entirely fixed upon Jesus—the believer may not even be aware of these works because his faith is fixed upon Christ for salvation. This explains their reply to Jesus in the judgment: "Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?" From this we learn that our faith must be always fixed upon Jesus who first fed us, clothed us, and came to our aid in His work of salvation, only then will the works of faith be manifest in us.*