

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the First Sunday in Lent/Invocavit Sunday
March 6 through March 13, 2022*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 149: A Call to Worship—Psalm 149 is a call to worship. We are to praise the Lord for all His acts of salvation. We are to sing to the Lord a new song—which is the song of grace, mercy, and forgiveness in Christ. It is not the old song of works righteousness and self-justification. Every reference in the psalm to Israel and the saints can be interpreted for us today as referring to the Church and all faithful believers in Christ (the saints). We praise the Lord and sing the new song of salvation because He delights in His Church and beautifies us with His righteousness that covers all our sin. The two-edged sword is a reference to the Word of God. The Law condemns, crucifies, judges, and, therefore, calls to repentance. The Gospel proclaims the judgment of God’s righteousness, which is the honor and glory of all His saints.

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: Our High Priest Sympathizes with Our Weaknesses.

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Isaiah 55:11b

[My Word] shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Psalm 149 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord God, heavenly Father, grant us faithfulness in our worship that we may truly praise You by singing the new song of salvation in Christ, and by faithfully preaching Your Law and Gospel to all; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	68	71	73	75, 76	78	80	82, 84	85
Evening	69	72	74	77	79	81	83	86

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Temptation of Our Lord—Matthew 4:1-11	
Monday	The Promise of the Holy Spirit—John 7:37-52	Isaiah 12:1-6
Tuesday	The Woman Caught in Adultery—John 7:53—8:12	Psalm 36
Wednesday	MIDWEEK: The Parable of the Persistent Widow—Luke 18:1-8	1 Thessalonians 5:14-18
Thursday	A Man Born Blind Receives His Sight—John 9:1-12	Isaiah 60:19-22
Friday	The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man—John 9:13-34	1 John 2:15-23
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Genesis 32:22-32	Romans 5:1-5

The Catechism: To Bishops, Pastors, and Preachers

(Preschool and Kindergarten children review the primary texts of the first three commandments)

<p>What does God’s Word say to bishops, pastors, and preachers?</p> <p>The overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,</p>	<p>First Grade + 1 Timothy 3:2</p>
<p>not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect.</p>	<p>Second Grade + 1 Timothy 3:3-4</p>
<p>He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil.</p>	<p>Third Grade + 1 Timothy 3:6</p>
<p>He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.</p>	<p>Fourth Grade + Titus 1:9</p>

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

Prayer for Pastors

O Lord Jesus, You are the Bishop and Overseer of our souls. You are the Lord of the harvest and have commanded us to pray for the gift of pastors to preach the Gospel and shepherd Your Church. Raise up men for the Office of the Holy Ministry who are above reproach, the husband of but one wife, who are temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, and able to teach Your life-giving Word. Deliver all pastors from the self-centered vices of the flesh. Grant them Your grace to manage their families well and to bring up their children in the true faith, with proper respect and devotion to the Word of God. Give them courage to hold firmly to the trustworthy message of the Gospel as it has been handed down to them and the wisdom to refute those who oppose it; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.
- Tuesday:** Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.
- Wednesday:** Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.
- Friday:** Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday:** Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Kendra Knoerr (3/6), Rev. Dustin Anderson (3/8), Timothy Haga (3/10), Amber LaFore (3/11).

Those Who Serve in the Military: Jessica Franklin (Air Force); John Franklin (Minnesota National Guard); Robert Haga (Marines); Evon Ingraham (Army Reserves); Mark Meyle (Marines); David Uttenreither (Army).

Thanksgiving: Gabby Hartwig for a reprieve from cancer, even as she continues to undergo therapeutic treatment.

The Sick: Jim Nitzsche hospitalized, Jeanne Scholz recuperating from shoulder surgery; Amy Bruss, recovering from a stroke.

Cancer Treatment: Nancy Thiele (leukemia); James Loker (liver cancer); Josiah Boehringer (childhood cancer).

Concordia University Wisconsin for renewal and healing in God's Word.

The people of Ukraine, wisdom and guidance for the governments of the world in dealing with the crisis of Russia's invasion.

Collect for the week of The First Sunday in Lent/ Invocabit Sunday:

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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

"Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken" (stanzas 1-4)

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Looking forward to **Reminiscere Sunday—The Second Sunday in Lent**

March 13, 2022

Hymns: 562, 623, 693, 713, 889

Genesis 32:22-32: When Jacob returns to meet his brother Esau who had threatened to kill him, he is left all alone before the Lord. In this wrestling match we are taught much about faith in Christ. The Lord WANTS us to wrestle with Him in prayer and to INSIST that He bless, protect, and deliver us according to the promises of His Word.

Romans 5:1-11: Righteousness is imputed to us for Christ's sake through faith in Christ, who died for sin and was raised from the dead to justify us, i.e., to declare us righteous on account of what He has done for us. This righteousness is received by faith. This is the foundation for the comforting words of Romans 5. Paul is speaking to the justified! "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Since we have been justified and have access to the grace of God through Christ, we can face all manner of tribulation and hardship.

Matthew 15:21-28: "Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses, for they are from of old" is the opening of the introit appointed for this Sunday, called in Latin, "Remember me" Sunday! In the appointed Gospel, the Gentile woman from Canaan cries out to Jesus for mercy because her daughter is severely demon-possessed. Her daughter needs His help and so does she! Every experience in the account would lead her to believe that the Lord does not love her or care about her salvation. It is not true! Jesus' test of this woman reveals to us that the true nature of saving faith is that it does not rely upon any merit or worthiness within the sinner, but solely upon the promise of salvation in Christ. This woman believed the promise of salvation made to Abraham. She worshiped Jesus as her Savior because she knew and believed that she was "an unworthy Gentile dog!" She called upon the Lord to remember HIS mercy, and not to help her for any other reason than the promises that God's own Word had made to unworthy sinners. This is why Jesus says, "O woman, great is your faith!" Her faith was great because the object of her faith was Christ alone and His promise of mercy. We cry out to Him in our time of need in the same way: "Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies...."