

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For Holy Week / Palm Sunday

April 10 through April 17, 2022

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Weep Not For Me — “Jesus turning to them said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.’” (Luke 23:28) “He suffers for our sake. For this reason, it grieves the Lord that His suffering should make us weep. He wants us to be happy, to praise God and give thanks for His grace, and to glorify Him and bear our witness, for it is through His Passion that we received God’s grace, and were freed from sin, and death, and became God’s dear children. But we are as slow to the one as to the other, for by nature we are contrary. When we should weep over our sins, we laugh; when we should laugh and our hearts be joyful because Christ, through His death, has won eternal life for us, we weep. For either we have no regard for such joy, because our hearts are bewitched by the merriment of this world, or we weep, lament, and pine as if Christ had never died, never paid for our sin, never stilled the wrath of God, and never redeemed us from death. Therefore, prayer is needed for both: first, that God through the Holy Ghost may touch our hearts, that He may make us loathe sin, may draw us away from it, and take away our trust in ourselves. Then, that He may kindle in our hearts His comfort in the midst of sin, and give us a firm confidence in our Lord’s sacrifice and satisfaction.” – Martin Luther, 1545, *Day by Day we Magnify Thee*

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: Father, Forgive Them for They Know Not What They Do!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 8:38-39

I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalm 118 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord God, almighty, it pleased You that through the rejection of Your Son You should bring about the salvation of all who have rejected You. This marvelous work of Jesus’ suffering and death is Your doing and it is precious in our sight for it means that all of life and salvation, peace and contentment, come from Your Son alone, whose atoning sacrifice is our righteousness. Save us now, O Lord, from all our sins and from every false reliance upon ourselves. Teach us to confess: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; You are my God; I will extol you, for Your steadfast love endures forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	84	119:73-80	34	5	38	22	43	93
Evening	42, 32	121, 6	25, 91	27, 51	126, 102	107, 130	31, 143	136, 117

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Passion According to St. Luke 22:1—23:56	
Monday	Passion: Jesus’ Betrayal and Arrest—John 18:1-14	Lamentations 3:19-33
Tuesday	Passion: Jesus before the High Priest—John 18:15-27	Isaiah 52:4-10
Wednesday	MIDWEEK: Jesus Faces Pontius Pilate—John 18:28-40	Isaiah 55:6-9
Thursday	Passion: Jesus Is Crucified—John 19:1-24	Psalm 22
Friday	No School—Passion: Jesus’ Death and Burial—John 19:25-42	Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Saturday	Holy Saturday—Matthew 27:57-66	1 Peter 3:17-22

The Catechism: Table of Duties— To Husbands

(Preschool children and everyone, review the primary texts of the fourth through tenth commandments.)

<p><i>What does God’s Word say to husbands?</i></p> <p>Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.</p>	<p>First Grade + 1 Peter 3:7</p>
<p>Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.</p>	<p>First Grade + Colossians 3:19</p>

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

Prayer for Husbands

O Lord Jesus, by Your Word and Spirit, fashion the men of Your Church into husbands made in Your image, who love their wives and sacrifice themselves for them, even as You gave Yourself for us, Your bride the Church. Teach them to respect their wives and to treat them with tenderness, compassion, and lovingkindness. Deliver them from all pride and arrogance so that they do not take advantage of their wives but honor them as joint heirs of the gracious gift of life. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Prayer for Home and Family

Visit, O Lord, the homes in which Your people dwell, and keep all harm and danger far from them. Grant that we may dwell together in peace under the protection of Your holy angels, sharing eternally in Your blessings; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Jennifer Scheler (4/11), Grayson Palmer (4/12), Heide Schaff, Judy Woehrmann, Benjamin Anderson (4/13), Palmer Grace, Sarah May, Savannah LaFore (4/15), Tyler Haga, Steven Haga (4/16).

Wedding Anniversary: Wally and Mary Schneider (4/14).

The Sick: John Paul Beine, in critical condition after a fall; Gary Lavann, recovering from bladder cancer surgery (father of Cheryl Gretzinger); Jan Wollin recovering from surgery; Rev. Dan McMiller, receiving diagnostic tests; Christy Schmidt-recovering-minor stroke; Aubrey Krueger, mental health treatment; Amy Bruss, in therapy following a stroke; Dr. Roland "Cap" Ehlke, James Loker, Josiah Boehringer in cancer treatment;

Hospice Care: Nancy Thiele.

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

Collect for Holy Week:

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same 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

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stanzas 1, 4, 6 and 7)

450

Looking forward to The Resurrection of Our Lord—Easter Week

April 17, 2022

Hymns: 457, 458, 464, 633, 486, 467, 475

Isaiah 65:17-25: The prophet Isaiah teaches us of the glorious new creation for which we hope because of what Jesus accomplished for us in His death and resurrection. We look forward to the passing away of all pain, suffering, sorrow, and death. Jesus not only redeemed us from sin and death, but He also redeemed the creation. As we will rise from the dead, so will the creation be brought into the glorious freedom of having been delivered from the curse of the fall.

1 Corinthians 15:19-26: Our Christian faith does not rest upon a fairy tale of a resurrected Lord, but upon the historical resurrection in the flesh of the Son of God who was crucified for us. Through the historical man Adam, from whom we all descended, sin and death came into the world. Through the historical Second Adam, our Lord Jesus Christ and His righteous sacrifice upon the cross, forgiveness and life came forth. "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."

Luke 24:1-12: In Luke's account of the resurrection of our Lord, he emphasizes that Jesus' resurrection rests upon the Scriptures and the reliability of His own preaching. The two angels stood where the body of Jesus had lain and declared, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" We have not seen Jesus with our eyes, but just like the disciples who did see Him our faith must rest not upon what we see, but upon the clear testimony of God's Word. Faith in the death and resurrection of our Lord is created and sustained by the faithful preaching of the Scriptures. The apostles and evangelists were not perpetuating a fraud when they testified to Jesus' resurrection. They were bearing witness to what they had heard from Him in Jesus' own faithful preaching from the Scriptures. When the women heard the announcement of the angels, Luke records that "they remembered His words." But when the women reported what the angels had said, it seemed to the disciples "like idle tales, and they did not believe them." This still happens today. Even though people may disbelieve or even reject the testimony of the Word of God proclaimed from the Scriptures, the account in Luke of our Lord's resurrection makes it clear that there is no other foundation for our faith but the Word of God alone. This is why we confess in the Nicene Creed each week that our Lord was crucified "according to the Scriptures" and that He also "rose again from the dead according to the Scriptures." The Word of God truly gives the comfort, salvation, and certainty of our Lord's death and resurrection.