

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Second Sunday of Easter/Quasimodo Geniti
April 24 through May 1, 2022*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — *“I Am the Vine, you are the branches, he who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” Holy Communion means that through Jesus’ body and blood we abide in Him and He abides in us. He takes from us all sin, death, and condemnation. We receive from Him all good and every spiritual blessing. We have no life apart from Him. A vine is the source of life for the branches. Branches have no life apart from that which they receive from the vine. In Holy Communion, the good flows from Jesus to us as a gift of His grace; and by the power of His Holy Spirit, He produces His works of love and mercy in us. ‘He who abides in Me, and I in Him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.’ Jesus produces all good in us as Christians. The fruits of His redeeming work—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23)—are all worked in us By Him as we receive His body and blood in contrition and faith. Applying this promise of Jesus’ to the Lord’s Supper helps us to understand what the Catechism is speaking about when it says that we go to the Sacrament to ‘learn from [Christ] to love God and [our] neighbor’ (Christian Questions with Their Answers). Excerpt from Lutheran Catechesis Catechist Edition, p. 290b*

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: By His Word of Forgiveness, He Breathes New Life into Us!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 15:5

**“I am the vine, you are the branches.
He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit;
for without Me you can do nothing.”**

Psalm 81 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: *O Lord, by Your Word and Spirit, open my mouth wide to receive every blessing of life and salvation through the body and blood of Christ given and shed for me upon the cross. Give me ears to hear and a heart to believe in Your promises that I might be satisfied by the sweetness of the honey of new life that flows from the Rock of our salvation, even 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	93	97	98	99	47	96	92	128, 129
Evening	136, 117	124, 115	66, 116	8, 118	68, 113	50, 138	23, 114	130

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Jesus Appears in the Upper Room—John 20:19-31	
Monday	The Resurrection of Our Lord—Luke 24:1-12 St Mark, Evangelist—Mark 16:14-20	Psalm 16
Tuesday	The Disciples on the Road to Emmaus—Luke 24:13-27	Acts 10:34-43
Wednesday	Jesus Is Revealed in the Breaking of the Bread—Luke 24:28-35	Acts 13:26-33
Thursday	Jesus Eats Broiled Fish in the Upper Room—Luke 24:33-49	Acts 3:11-21
Friday	Jesus Ordains the Apostles—John 20:19-31	1 John 1:1—2:2
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Ezekiel 34:11-16	1 Peter 2:21-25

The Catechism: Table of Duties— To Wives

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

*What does God’s Word say of wives?
Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.*

Third Grade +
Ephesians 5:22

[This is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful.] They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

First Grade +
1 Peter 3:5-6

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

Prayer for Wives

O Lord Jesus, by Your Word and Spirit, fashion all Christian women into wives made in the image of Your bride the Church. Teach them to submit to their husbands as to You, their Lord and Savior. Give them hearts that trust in Your Word, honor their husbands, and look to them for love and spiritual headship. Deliver them from all fear and faithlessness. Where their husbands fail them, support them with Your grace and let them find their sufficiency in You. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

The Lord's blessing upon the call to our Associate Pastor and Headmaster

Baptismal Birthdays: Lyle Wollin, John Thoni, Kevin Ruehle (4/24), Joe Schneider (4/25), Mary Heise, David Uttenreither (4/27), Rachel Frerking (4/29), Laura Knoerr, Nicola Giordano (4/30).

Wedding Anniversary: Bob and Sandra Elmer (4/24), Pat and Sharon Murphy (4/25), Mark and Holly Schneider, Eric and Kayla Kütemeier (4/26), Bill and Marlene Schaefer 4/27).

The Sick: Al Gabel recovering from gallbladder surgery and UTI; Jan Wollin recovering at home from pneumonia; John Paul Beine, in critical condition after a fall; Gary Lavann, recovering from bladder cancer surgery (father of Cheryl Gretzinger); 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: Joyce Schmidt, Cliff Evans, 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 the Second Sunday of Easter/Quasimodo Geniti

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for Saint Mark, Evangelist (April 25)

Almighty God, You have enriched Your Church with the proclamation of the Gospel through the evangelist Mark. Grant that we may firmly believe these glad tidings and daily walk according to Your Word; 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

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" (stanzas 1-3, 8)

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Looking forward to the Third Sunday of Easter/Misericordias Domini

May 1, 2022

Hymns: 710, 709, 482, 640, 683, 693

Ezekiel 34:11-16: The seeking Shepherd is a vivid description of the ministry of our Lord in both His death and the ongoing proclamation of His Word. Throughout this prophecy, the Lord indicates how HE will take the initiative to seek out and save His lost sheep: "I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out... I seek out My sheep... I will bring them out... I will feed them... I will feed My flock... I will make them lie down... I will seek what was lost and bring back what was driven away, bind up the broken and strengthen what was sick..."

1 Peter 2:21-25: The "example" or pattern of Christ's sufferings is that He committed Himself to the Father who judges righteously. This week's reading from Peter's first epistle is the climax of this section in which he catechizes us concerning Christian vocation. All offices that Christians might hold take their cue from Jesus' example of submission to the Father's will to lay down His life for the unworthy and undeserving. The true heart of Christian vocation is the call to live by faith in God's mercy in Christ. It is through His mercy and grace that we are drawn back to Him who is the Shepherd and Overseer of our souls.

John 10:11-16: Jesus said, "I lay down My life for the sheep." These words are spoken in the context of explaining that a hireling does not care for the sheep as the Good Shepherd does, but rather flees when he sees the wolf coming. The wolf is Satan. He attacks us by using our sin against us. We have no defense in ourselves. But we have a Good Shepherd. He stood up to the devil by laying down His life on our behalf. The devil was out for blood. He demanded that blood be shed because of sin. Jesus was the only One who could make atonement for our sin. He loved us to the point of laying down His life for us that we might be rescued from Satan and the condemnation of hell. The flock of Christ is kept safe solely by the forgiveness of sins which is ours in the Good Shepherd. The ministry of every pastor is to be patterned after the ministry of our Lord. As He loved us and laid down His life for our forgiveness, so pastors are to love their flocks and lay down their lives, so to speak, for the cause of proclaiming that Word of forgiveness that sets them free.