

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Eighth Sunday after Trinity
August 7 through August 14, 2022

Catechesis Notes for the Week —*Summer Stories from St. Luke: In Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus's House* we continue to see the call to repentance and the result of repentant faith in Zacchaeus giving back his stolen property. In the **Parable of the Minas** (unit of weight) Jesus speaks about the gift of salvation in the Gospel that is to be put to use in repentant faith and faithful service in the Church and the Christian's vocation until He comes again. On **Palm Sunday** we see the beginning of the climax of Jesus' work of salvation. All things unfold according to God's Word and plan of salvation in Christ. Those who believe in Him rightly sing the Passover psalm to Him: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" He weeps over the impenitence of the people of Jerusalem, who did not realize the visitation of God's salvation in Jesus, who called them away from reliance upon self to reliance upon the mercy of God that He came to bring. Repentance and faith in Christ's atoning sacrifice is the only thing that can give us peace with God. The story of Israel's pattern of impenitence and hardness of heart is described in the **Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers**. Time and time again God sent them His prophets. Time and time again they rejected the call to repentance. Finally, He sent them His Son—the only One who could make their peace with God—but they rejected Him and nailed Him to the cross. Yet the irony of all of this is that the very act of their rejection in the crucifixion of Jesus became God's instrument of salvation for a sinful world. As Holy Week begins, Jesus enters into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and is hailed as the Messiah. The opposition to His ministry begins in earnest by the chief priests, Sadducees, scribes, and Pharisees. Always looking for ways to trap Jesus in a contradiction, the Pharisees are the first to challenge Jesus. Luke records that they "pretended to be righteous" but they could not catch Him in His words. Should one be loyal to God or loyal to the government? Jesus silenced them in His famous words: **Render to Caesar the Things that Are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.** The **Sadducees Question Jesus about the Resurrection** because they did not believe in the resurrection or life after death, yet they claimed to be faithful to the Law of Moses. Jesus used Moses' words to counter them: "Now even Moses showed in the burning bush passage that the dead are raised, when he called the Lord 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' For He is not the God of the dead but of the living."

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: Beware of False Prophets!

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: John 14:23b

Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word;
and My Father will love him,
and We will come to him and make Our home with him."

Psalm 48 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, You have created and preserve Your Church as the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit in the beauty of Your righteousness. We give thanks to You for our protection and preservation. You will build and defend Your Holy Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against her. You are our God, forever and ever. Be our guide even to death that many may behold Your love and be brought into Your holy mountain; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	82, 84	85	88	89	91	92	95, 96	98, 100
Evening	83	86	87	90	93	94	97	99

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	"Beware of False Prophets"—Matthew 7:15-23	
Monday	Jesus Comes to Zacchaeus's House—Luke 19:1-10	Zech. 12:10; 13:7-9
Tuesday	The Parable of the Minas—Luke 19:11-28	Malachi 1:1-5
Wednesday	The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers—Luke 20:1-19	Malachi 1:6-14
Thursday	Render to Caesar the Things That Are Caesar's—Luke 20:20-26	Malachi 2:1-9
Friday	Sadducees Question Jesus About the Resurrection—Luke 20:27-44	Malachi 2:10-17
Saturday	Sunday's OT and Epistle—2 Samuel 22:26-34	1 Corinthians 10:6-13

The Catechism: The Lord's Prayer—the Seventh Petition

What is the Seventh Petition? But deliver us from evil.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.	Second Grade +

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

Prayer on the Seventh Petition

Father in heaven, rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Yourself in heaven, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Larry Martin (8/7), Bryce Damato, Jacob Bender (8/10), Jennifer Johnson, Jessica Franklin, Caleb Ligrow (8/12).

Wedding Anniversaries: Rev. Robert and Louise Johnson, Ken and Laura Knoerr (8/8), Joe and Elisabeth Schneider, Alex and Jennifer Scheler (8/10), Steve and Joanne LaSage (8/13).

The Sick: Rev. Shane Cota recovering from open heart by-pass surgery; Rev. DuWayne Schneider (friend of the Koplings) recovering at a care center following hospitalization; Heather Peters, Barbara Wieting, Josiah Boehringer and Linda Ongna (niece of Sharon Martin) with cancer.

Hospice care: Bernice Lemke

Peace for the war in Ukraine

Collect for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; 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

"Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide"

585

Looking forward to the Ninth Sunday after Trinity

August 14, 2022

Hymns: 743, 536, 559, 918, 761, 933

2 Samuel 22:26-34: This passage of Second Samuel records for us part of the text that Jesus used in teaching the parable of the Unjust Steward. It speaks of how the Lord Himself is more shrewd and clever than even the most shrewd and clever of men: "With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; with a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless; with the pure You will show Yourself pure; and with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd. You will save the humble people; but Your eyes are on the haughty, that You may bring them down" (vs. 26-28).

1 Corinthians 10:6-13: St. Paul uses the example of Old Testament Israel to warn the Corinthian Christians against the danger of idolatry (false faith and worship) which evidences itself in sexual immorality, murmuring, and complaining against the Lord. The end of such idolatry is the loss of faith and eternal death. This warning against the danger of idolatry is intended to draw us to the One Man, Christ Jesus, who alone can deliver us from these dangers in the time of such temptation: "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it" (vs. 12-13).

Luke 16:1-13: "The master commended the unjust steward because he had dealt shrewdly" (Luke 16:1-9). The steward's shrewdness is praiseworthy for two reasons. First, he knew the master would be merciful. He trusted that the master would honor the debts he forgave in the master's name. In the same way, though we have squandered our heavenly Father's possessions in selfishness and sin, Jesus is the Steward who has canceled our debt, knowing that His forgiveness will be honored by the Father because of the holy cross. Secondly, the steward was shrewd in using oil and wheat to provide for his earthly welfare. So also do these earthly elements aid us when pressed into heavenly use in the anointing of baptism and the wheat of the Lord's Supper. Those who have the Sacraments will have an eternal home when the earthly fails. These are our escape in temptation (1 Cor. 10:6-13). For the Lord is our strength and a shield to all who trust in Him (2 Sam 22:26-34). —Excerpted from the LSB hymnal project