

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Twentieth Sunday after Trinity  
October 9 through October 16, 2022

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — A Prayer of Comfort from the Lord's Abiding Presence—Psalm 139** offers us great comfort as we meditate upon the account of the Fall, the First Promise of the Gospel, the Curse of the Fall, and the sin of Cain who murdered his brother Abel. Genesis chapter 3 describes how the world came to be a place of brokenness and sin when Adam turned away from God's Word, but it also offers to us the promise of salvation in the Seed of the Woman (Jesus) who would crush the Serpent's head (Satan) in His suffering and death upon the cross (the bruised heel). Psalm 139 puts all things in perspective as does Paul in his sermon in Athens. There is no place we can travel where the Lord is not present for the help, comfort, and salvation of His people who believe in Him. He searches our hearts. He knows everything about us. He is acquainted with all our ways. He knows every word we speak before we utter it. We cannot hide from His presence. We cannot fully grasp the wonder of His omniscience. He orders the affairs of our life, so that we are drawn to Him to seek His help in repentant faith. He has made each of us individually in our mother's womb. He knew us before we were born. Our days are ordered in His book. His thoughts toward each of us are precious and more than we can number. We ask Him to make His will our own and to lead us each day in humble contrition and repentance, and in prayer to seek His guidance. If there is any wicked way in us, we pray that He would turn us to the good and to the way of everlasting life.

## 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: Come to the Feast of Salvation!

### Invocation

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

### Apostles' Creed

#### Verse: John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God.

All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

#### Psalm 139:1-18 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

**Prayer on the Psalm:** O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You formed my inward parts. I will praise You for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. How precious are Your thoughts to me! Search me, O God, and know my heart. Lead me in the way everlasting, through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	89	91	92	95, 96	98, 100	101	103	105
Evening	90	93	94	97	99	102	104	106

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>Trinity 20:</b> Parable of the Wedding Feast—Matthew 22:1-14	
Monday	<b>No School</b> —Paul Speaks in Athens—Acts 17:22-34	Proverbs 4:10-19
Tuesday	The Fall of Man into Sin—Genesis 3:1-8	John 1:35-42
Wednesday	The First Promise of Salvation—Genesis 3:8-15	John 1:43-51
Thursday	The Curse of the Fall—Genesis 3:16-24	John 2:1-12
Friday	Cain Murders Abel; the Birth of Seth—Gen. 4:1-18 (19-24) 25-26	John 2:13-25
Saturday	Trinity 21: Genesis 1:1—2:3	Ephesians 6:10-17

### The Catechism: The Creed—The First Article

What is the First Article of the Creed?

Preschool +

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

What does this mean?

First Grade +

I believe that God has made me and all creatures;  
that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members,  
my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.  
He also gives me clothing and shoes,  
food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have.

He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.  
He defends me against all danger  
and guards and protects me from all evil.  
All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy,  
without any merit or worthiness in me.  
For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.  
This is most certainly true.

Second Grade +

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

#### **Thanksgiving for God's Creation**

*Heavenly Father, Your Word gives life and has created and sustains all things. We thank You for the sun, the moon, and the stars which give light to the earth and order our days and seasons. We give thanks to You for the expanse of the sky, for the water that sustains all of life, and for the dry land upon which we live. We give thanks to You for the plants and animals of Your creation. You have given all of this to us for our good and for our enjoyment. We give thanks to You that You have created us in Your image, male and female, to be fruitful and multiply, and to have dominion over the creation. We thank You for ordering our lives and giving us rest and refreshment through Your Word. But most of all, we thank You for redeeming us and all of creation from sin and death through the gift of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to trust in You as our Creator and to believe in Your Son for eternal life and salvation, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

#### **Collect for the Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**

*O Lord, grant to Your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve You with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**In Our Prayers this Week** (include the petitions below followed by the Lord's Prayer and collects for the day)

**Baptismal Birthdays:** Jim Wollin (10/9), Jan Wollin (10/14).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Dean and Kristi Herzberg, Ted and Kristine Dhein (10/9), Kurt and Cyndi Ruhнау (10/10).

**Thanksgiving for healing mercies:** Barbara Wieting in remission following cancer treatment.

**The Sick:** Luther Gutknecht (uncle of Julie Goltermann) recuperating from surgery for a fractured hip; Paul Schmidt recovering from a leg amputation; David Berger (father of Kathy May) recovering after a fall and undergoing heart testing; newborn Isaiah Wieting, recovering from open-heart surgery and preparing for further surgeries; Kay Trapp, undergoing breast cancer surgery this week; Kathy Miller, Rev. DuWayne Schneider, Heather Peters, and Josiah Boehringer in cancer treatment.

### **Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism**

#### **Hymn of the Week**

**"We All Believe in One True God"**

954

#### **Looking forward to the Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity**

**October 16, 2022**

**Hymns: 790, 834, 664, 587, 819, 585**

**Genesis 1:1-2:3:** "God SAID, and it was so..." "God CALLED" exercising His gracious dominion. "God SAID" it was very good..." All of creation rests upon God's life-creating and life-sustaining Word. Apart from the Word of God nothing was made that was made; and by the Word of God all things continue to be sustained. God grant us faith to receive His Word, to rejoice in its life-giving and saving gifts, and to delight above all things to hear it preached and taught for the preservation of our life and salvation in Christ.

**Ephesians 6:10-17:** St. Paul describes the armor of a Christian and our one offensive weapon. Each of these items of a Christian's armor—the girded waist with truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shod feet with the Gospel of peace, the shield of faith, and the helmet of salvation—are all images that reflect what the strong Word of the Gospel gives to us. And the only "offensive weapon" we have is "the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." Let us take up these gifts of God's Word and rest confidently in their protection.

**John 4:46-54:** The miracle of the healing of the nobleman's son teaches us that the Lord Jesus is present wherever His Word is faithfully preached and that His Word delivers to us His salvation. Human reason wants to rely upon signs, but even when signs are given, still the sinful flesh does not want to believe. Only the Word can create faith. Only the Word can deliver the blessings of Christ's salvation. When the nobleman came to Jesus, he was desperate. His son lay at the point of death. He wanted Jesus to come into his home and save him. Jesus did exactly that by the Word He spoke: "Go your way; your son lives." That Word was true and delivered life to his son, even though he was not at home "to see" the results. The father later learned that his son was alive and that he was healed at the very moment that Jesus spoke the Word. This is what we are called to believe throughout our lives. Not only is the Word of Christ alone the source of our salvation and the object of our faith; but the Word of Christ alone gives certainty, takes away doubt, and comforts the soul of the Christian.