

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Trinity 27, the Last Sunday in the Church Year
November 20 through November 27, 2022

Catechesis Notes for the Week—The Blessing of the Lord's Grace—Esau had despised his birthright. Jacob was a deceiver who coveted his brother's position. Neither son of Isaac deserved their father's blessing. But in the scheming and conniving of the story of **Isaac Blesses Jacob** we learn that in every way God's promise of salvation in Christ rests upon God's grace alone for the unworthy sinner. Jacob was, no doubt, proud of himself for believing that he had tricked his father into giving him the blessing. But in reality, it was God's will from before the birth of Jacob and Esau that Jacob should receive the blessing. This teaches us that God's blessing rests upon His grace for the sinner and not upon any merit, position, standing, or priority of birth order. **Esau Does Not Receive the Blessing** to be the "son of the promise" in the lineage of Jesus, but God's favor to Esau was, nevertheless, included in Jacob's blessing because, according to the promise, the Seed of Abraham would bring the blessing of salvation to all nations. Over the course of his lifetime, Jacob would be humbled, and his pride would be crucified. He would learn to depend upon the grace of God when he might have otherwise been tempted to believe that he deserved it. In **Heaven Is Opened at Bethel**, Jacob learned the important lesson that wherever God's Word of grace is proclaimed, there the Lord is present with His gifts. This is why Jacob named that place Bethel, which means "House of God." In **Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel**, the conniving trickster was outfoxed by his uncle Laban who gave Jacob Leah instead of Rachel. The competition for Jacob's affections by the four women that gave birth to all his children teaches us the reality of human sin and the frailty of the flesh for which we all need a Savior. Despite the rivalry and bitterness between their mothers, the **Children of Jacob** would share in the gift of salvation by grace that came through God's promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. This story teaches us that all human life is sacred. All human life is the object of God's love in Christ and in the promise of His Gospel.

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: Like a Bride, We Yearn for the Coming of Our Lord in Glory.

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: Genesis 8:22

While the earth remains,
Seedtime and harvest,
Cold and heat,
Winter and summer,
And day and night
Shall not cease.

Psalm 92 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56	59	60, 61	24
Evening	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55	57, 58	62	25, 110

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Trinity 27: The Wise and Foolish Virgins—Matthew 25:1-13	
Monday	Isaac Blesses Jacob—Genesis 27:1-29	Romans 3:27—4:8
Tuesday	Esau Does Not Receive the Blessing—Genesis 27:30-45	Romans 4:13-25
Wednesday	Heaven Is Opened at Bethel—Genesis 27:46–28:22	Romans 5:1-11
Thursday	Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel—Genesis 29:1-30	John 4:1-14
Friday	The Children of Jacob—Genesis 29:31—30:24	John 4:15-30
Saturday	Advent 1: The Lord Is Our Righteousness—Jeremiah 23:5-8	Romans 13:8-14

The Catechism: The Lord's Prayer—Introduction and First Petition

What is the Introduction to the Lord's Prayer?
Our Father who art in heaven.

Preschool +

<p><i>What does this mean?</i> With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.</p>	First Grade +
<p><i>What is the First Petition?</i> Hallowed be Thy name.</p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.</p>	Second Grade +
<p><i>How is God's name kept holy?</i> God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!</p>	Third Grade +

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

In Our Prayers this Week (include the petitions below followed by the Lord's Prayer)

Baptismal Anniversaries: Carol Bender, Hazel Gierach (11/21); Nathan Schneider (11/22); Louise Johnson (11/24); Angela Christopherson, Tom Aufdemberge (11/25).

Wedding Anniversaries: Rev. Jon and Lynn Leider (11/25).

The Sick: David Berger recovering from heart valve replacement surgery; Rev. Doug May (grandfather of Sarah May & Rachel Haga), suffering from heart problems; Mary Boehringer suffering the after effects of childhood cancer treatment; Peyton Locklair, Jamilyn Martin, Kathy Miller, Heather Peters, and Josiah Boehringer in cancer treatment.

Collect for the Last Sunday of the Church Year

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for the End of the Church Year

O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that, from the bonds of our sins which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Thanksgiving Collect for the Harvest Observance

Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather in the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, may we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need; through 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

"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying" (stanza 1)

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<p>Looking forward to the First Sunday in Advent</p> <p>Hymns: 331, 341, 334, 333, 332, 339</p> <p>Jeremiah 23:5-8: After condemning unfaithful pastors who did not warn the sheep and lead them to the promise of Christ's coming, Jeremiah begins the Old Testament reading for the First Sunday in Advent with the promise of how the Lord will raise up a faithful Shepherd from the House of David, a Branch of righteousness, and a King of ultimate wisdom and justice. That Shepherd is God's only Son, Christ the Lord. He will save His people. He will comfort and defend them. He will be called: "THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS!" There is no greater and more comforting name to describe what it is that our Lord Jesus Christ has done for us in His suffering and death upon the cross.</p> <p>Romans 13:(8-10) 11-14: With every passing day, the Lord's return in glory draws nearer. The Apostle Paul calls us to awaken from the slumber of impenitence and spiritual sloth. He calls us to "cast off the works of darkness" through confession and to "put on the armor of light" by receiving afresh the Lord's forgiving Word. Only then will we be enabled to walk properly as "children of the day." Only then will we be prepared for the Lord's return. "Put on the Lord Jesus!" He IS our righteousness! "And make no provision for the flesh!"</p> <p>Matthew 21:1-9: The Passover Lamb. The Son of David. The Christ. The King. The Lord. The lowly servant who rides upon a donkey as a sign that He is the Savior of sinners. Jesus is all this for you! "Hosanna to the Son of David, Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" proclaims Jesus to be everything that the Old Testament Church was looking forward to in the coming of their Messiah. The One whom they lauded and confessed as Savior when He entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday is the same Lord whose birth we prepare to celebrate, whose Word and Sacrament continue to nurture us, and whose Second Coming we look forward to with great joy and anticipation. This is Advent par excellence: penitential joy that looks forward to the gracious coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.</p>	<p>November 27, 2022</p>
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