

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Feast of Pentecost
May 28 through June 4, 2023

Catechesis Notes for the Week — The Gift of the Holy Spirit and the Gospel of Matthew—This week of Pentecost we meditate upon the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus promised the Apostles, “the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” This promise guaranteed for them the miracle of the New Testament Scriptures. The Apostles witnessed everything that Jesus said and did. They witnessed His ministry as the fulfillment of the Old Testament Scriptures. The Holy Spirit would bring this to their remembrance so that they could faithfully testify to Jesus in the New Testament Scriptures and deliver this message to us. Through the Apostolic Word we hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and come to know and believe in all that Jesus is and has done for us and for the world. The promise of the Holy Spirit first given to the Apostles also applies to us as we hear and receive their testimony. The Holy Spirit works in our hearts and lives through the Word. The first three days this week we meditate upon the appointed readings for Pentecost, Pentecost Monday, and Pentecost Tuesday. The remainder of the summer we hear the voice of the Spirit as we walk through the eyewitness testimony of the Apostle and Evangelist, St. Matthew. Notice how often Matthew’s testimony of Jesus life and ministry is laced with quotations and allusions to the Old Testament witness of the prophets. In this way, our faith is strengthened by the two-fold witness of the Apostles and Prophets and Jesus is shown to be the savior of all nations as foretold in Old Testament and witnessed by the Apostles.

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: The Holy Spirit Will Teach You Jesus!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 14:26

The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name,
He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

Psalm 143 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O God of all peace and consolation, who gloriously fulfilled the great promise of the Gospel by sending down Your Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost to establish the Church as the home of our Lord’s continual presence and power among us, mercifully grant to us, we beseech You, this same gift of Your Spirit, to renew, enlighten, refresh, and sanctify us, to be over us and around us like the light and dew of heaven, and to be in us evermore as a well of water springing up into everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, be all honor and glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	26, 27	30	32	33	35	37	40	42, 43
Evening	25	28, 29	31	34	36	38	39, 41	44

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Pentecost: “Peace I leave with you...”—John 14:23-31	
Monday	Pentecost Monday: Acts 10:34a, 42-48	John 3:16-21
Tuesday	Pentecost Tuesday: Acts 8:14-17	Isaiah 32:14-20
Wednesday	The Genealogy of Jesus—Matthew 1:1-17	Isaiah 1:16-20
Thursday	The Baptism of Our Lord—Matthew 3:13-17	Isaiah 2:2-5
Friday	The Temptation of Our Lord—Matthew 4:1-11	Isaiah 3:1-11
Saturday	Holy Trinity: Isaiah 6:1-7	Romans 11:33-36

The Catechism: The Creed— The Third Article

What is the Third Article of the Creed?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Preschool +

<p><i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.</p>	First Grade +
<p>In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.</p>	Second Grade +

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

Prayer on the Third Article

O Holy Spirit, we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord, or come to Him. Call us to faith in Jesus by the Gospel, enlighten us every day with Your gifts of baptism, absolution, and the Lord's Supper; and sanctify and keep us and the whole Christian Church on earth with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. Forgive us our sins every day and give us the blessed hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Collect for the Feast of Pentecost

O God, on [the day of Pentecost] You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; 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)

Baptismal Anniversaries: Cheryl Piper (5/28), Melody Ruhbusch, Karl Stemke (5/30), Olivia Volquardsen (5/31), Glenn Bollmeyer, Olivia Gehlbach (6/2), Michael Christopherson (6/3).

Wedding Anniversaries: Frank and Rosie Kopting, Jody and Rebecca Ligrow (5/28), Al and Jeannine Gabel (5/30), Jon and Peggy Lundberg (5/31), Doug and Bonnie Westrich (6/1).

Those Who Serve in the Military: Jessica Franklin (Air Force); John Franklin (Minnesota National Guard); Evon Ingraham (Army Reserves); Robert Haga (Marines); Morgan Thoni (Navy); David Uttenreither (Army).

The Sick: Don Fell, Frank Kopting, and Evan Lewis hospitalized; Beth (niece & goddaughter of Donna Lovas) recovering from colon surgery; Harold Kampin, recovering at home; Karen (mother of Peggy Lundberg) suffering with severe shingles; Walt Dissen in rehab with long road to recovery; David Berger home with ongoing medical evaluation and treatment; Mark Gretzinger undergoing medical testing for undiagnosed illness; Kathleen Hetzel, Tanya Knoblock, Dennis Michaelis, Gabby Hartwig, Mike Ferguson, Peyton Locklair, Kathy Miller, Heather Peters, and Jeff (friend of the Goltermanns) in cancer treatment.

Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.

Hymn of the Week

"Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord"

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Looking forward to the Feast of the Holy Trinity

June 4, 2023

Hymns: 604, 571, 953, 795, 794, 876

Isaiah 6:1-7: "I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." Isaiah made this confession of his own sin and unworthiness when he was called by the Lord to be a prophet. This confession should be made by every minister of the Word. If our call was based upon our worthiness, there would be no ministers. Isaiah's worthiness was in the Lord who had purged him of his sins so that he might preach the Word of God faithfully. Herein lies an important message: the minister is equipped to preach the Gospel when he himself is a hearer and believer in that Gospel. If he does not hear and believe it for himself, he will never be able to minister it to others. The vision of Isaiah is appointed for Holy Trinity Sunday because of the vision of the angels of heaven who sing the Sanctus, Holy, Holy, Holy, around the throne of God. This song of the angels teaches us that life with and in the Blessed Trinity is opened to us through the ministry of the Word of God that proclaims forgiveness of sins to sinners.

Romans 11:33-36: Paul extols the richness of the grace and love of the Holy Trinity, which is beyond our capacity to fully grasp and understand. All glory belongs to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit because of His great mercy and lovingkindness to us.

John 3:1-17: God is revealed to us in our Baptism where we are born again of water and the Holy Spirit. In our Baptism God gives us His strong name which proclaims to us who He is and all that He does for us. It is as if He were saying, "I am the one true God. I give you my Name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; You belong to me. I have adopted you as my very own. I am the Father who created you. I am the Son who has redeemed you by My blood. I am the Holy Spirit who has called you to faith and sanctifies you through the blood of Christ. I am your God." The strong name of the Triune God is our protection throughout life. Let us call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks. "Blessed be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity: let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mercy to us. O Lord, our Lord: how excellent is Your name in all the earth!" (From the Introit for Holy Trinity)