

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
 For the Week of the Feast of the Resurrection  
 March 31, 2024, through April 7, 2024

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Christ, Our Passover Lamb** — “Christ is explicitly named the Passover Lamb who takes away the sin of the world by the shedding of His blood upon the cross. The Old Testament Passover was a type for the slaughter of Christ upon the cross and the eating of His body and blood in the Lord’s Supper. In the Lord’s Supper we feast upon the true Passover Lamb of God for the forgiveness of our sins. His blood sets us free from the bondage to sin, the condemning force of the Law, and the power of Satan. In this passage, ‘old leaven’ is a reference to sin. Sin is to be ‘purged’ by contrition and repentance that we might become ‘unleavened’ of forgiven in Christ.” [Excerpt from Lutheran Catechesis: Catechist Edition, p. 280a)

## 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 Dead Will Be Raised Incorruptible and We Shall Be Changed!

### Invocation

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

### Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 1 Corinthians 5:7b-8

**Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.  
 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven,  
 nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness,  
 but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**

**Psalm 16 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.**

**Prayer on the Psalm:** Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Grant that we who have been raised with Him may abide in His presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through the same 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	93
Evening	136, 117	124, 115	66, 116	8, 118	68, 113	50, 138	23, 114	136, 117

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>The Resurrection of Our Lord—Mark 16:1-8</b>	
Monday	<b>Easter Monday:</b> The Emmaus Disciples—Luke 24:13-35	1 Peter 1:17-25
Tuesday	<b>Easter Tuesday:</b> The Breaking of the Bread—Luke 24:36-49	Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Wednesday	<b>Easter Wednesday:</b> The Resurrection Catch—John 21:1-14	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
Thursday	Jesus Reinstates Peter—John 21:15-25	Colossians 3:1-7
Friday	The Song of Moses—Exodus 15:1-18	1 Cor. 15:1-58
Saturday	The Valley of the Dry Bones—Ezekiel 37:1-14	1 John 5:4-10

### The Catechism: The Creed— Second Article

What is the Second Article of the Creed? <b>And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord...</b>	Preschool +
What does this mean? I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,	First Grade +
That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.	Second Grade +

**Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, and In Our Prayers at Peace**

**Collect for the Resurrection of Our Lord:**

*O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Collect for Easter Monday**

*O God, in the paschal feast You restore all creation. Continue to send Your heavenly gifts upon Your People that they may walk in perfect freedom and receive eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Collect for Easter Tuesday**

*Almighty God, through the resurrection of Your Son You have secured peace for our troubled consciences. Grant us this peace evermore that trusting in the merit of Your Son we may come at last to the perfect peace of heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Collect for Easter Wednesday**

*Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Grant that we who have been raised with Him may abide in His presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Daily Themes for Prayer — “Let us pray...”**

- Sunday:** *For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.*
- Friday:** *For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.*

**In Our Prayers this Week — “Let us pray for...”**

**Baptismal Anniversaries:** Cyndi Ruhnau, Geri Zaretske (3/30), Amanda DiPuma (3/31), Linda Milos, Ava Damato (4/1), Selah Gierach (4/2), Heaven Knutson (4/3), Jackie Klug, Chase and Norah Galles (4/4), Karen Frerking (4/5).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Randy and Pam Kirk (4/3).

**The Sick:** Anna Steinhilb recovering from surgery; Chuck Finke, Isabella Torkelson, recovering after hospitalization; Bruce Fehr, Bill Spilger, Tom Smith, Rev. Dr. John Wille, Rev. Luke Boehringer, Jean Reuss, and Gabby Hartwig for cancer.

**Those in Hospice:** Edna Gierach (mother-Bob Gierach), Yet Ngor Wong (grandmother-Nicola Giordano), Karen (aunt-Mark Thoni)

**Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.**

**Hymn of the Week**

**“Awake, My Heart, with Gladness”**

**467**

**Looking forward to the Second Sunday of Easter/Quasimodo Geniti**

**April 7, 2024**

**Hymns: 482, 471, 467, 487, 468, 488**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14:** “Dry bones” are bones with no life in them. The prophet Ezekiel proclaims the Word of the Lord. The Word of the Lord breathes life into “dry bones” because it is the Word of forgiveness. The resurrection of the body is the concrete manifestation of the forgiveness of sins that Jesus earned for us in His death.

**1 John 5:4-10:** What is the victory that overcomes the world? Faith in Christ overcomes the world, along with all the sin, temptation, and death in our lives with which we daily contend. If we look for our certainty by looking at whether or not we have always overcome temptation in our lives, we will never have certainty. Certainty comes by a faith which lays hold of Christ Jesus alone in His holy Word and sacraments.

**John 20:19-31:** It is in Jesus’ first resurrection appearance in the upper room that He ordained His disciples “apostles” saying, “Peace to You! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” As Jesus spoke these words He said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” The promise of the Holy Spirit is given to every minister of the Gospel in so far as he is faithful to the Word of Christ. Wherever Jesus’ Word is preached, there is the Spirit of God “working faith when and where He pleases,” forgiving the sins of repentant sinners and withholding forgiveness from the unrepentant. The purpose of the Apostolic Word is defined by John in his Gospel: “these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name” (vs.31).