

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Third Sunday after Trinity
 June 16, 2024, through June 23, 2024

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 103—A Prayer in Praise of the Lord’s Mercy—From the depths of his being, David calls upon his own soul and all that is within him to bless the Lord for the Lord’s mercy and for every benefit that he receives from the grace of God. The LORD forgives all iniquity. He heals all diseases. He redeems one’s life from destruction. He crowns the believer with loving kindness and tender mercies. He satisfies us with good things. He renews our life. All of this flows from the mercy of God in Christ our Redeemer. In Jesus, God has executed righteousness and worked justice for all who were oppressed by sin and death. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in mercy which He so freely and faithfully made known to Moses and the children of Israel. Though He afflicts us, He, nevertheless, lets go of His anger and does not punish us as we deserve. His mercy is as different from the world’s concept of mercy as the heavens are high above the earth. His forgiveness means that He has removed our transgressions from us, like a father who pities his children. The Lord knows that we are made from dust. We will flower but soon wither and fade. But His mercy endures forever, from everlasting to everlasting. All angelic ministers in heaven and earth bless the Lord and do His pleasure as they proclaim the excellencies of His love in the preaching of the 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: There Is Joy in Heaven Over One Sinner Who Repents!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 6:11-12

Reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey its lusts.

Psalm 103:1-13 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Almighty and everlasting God, of Your great mercy in Jesus Christ You have granted us forgiveness of sin and all things pertaining to life and godliness. Send us Your Holy Spirit that He may so rule our hearts that we, being ever mindful of Your fatherly mercy, may serve You in holiness and pureness of living and may give You continual thanks for all Your goodness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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	The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin—Luke 15:1-10	
Monday	Paul and Barnabas Preach in Iconium—Acts 13:42—14:7	Romans 6:1-7
Tuesday	Paul and Barnabas Are Mistaken for Greek Gods—Acts 14:8-28	Romans 6:8-14
Wednesday	The Jerusalem Council—Acts 15:1-21	Romans 6:15-23
Thursday	The Decree of the Jerusalem Council—Acts 15:22-35	Romans 7:1-12
Friday	Paul’s Second Missionary Journey Begins—Acts 15:36—16:15	Romans 7:13-25
Saturday	Paul and Silas Are Imprisoned at Philippi—Acts 16:16-34	Romans 8:1-11

The Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism—Parts II and III

<p>What benefits does Baptism give? It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.</p>	Third Grade +
<p>Which are these words and promises of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” [Mark 16:16]</p>	Second Grade +

<p><i>How can water do such great things?</i> Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God, it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:</p>	Third Grade +
<p>He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,</p>	Kindergarten +
<p>whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,</p>	First Grade +
<p>so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. [Titus 3:5-8]</p>	Second Grade +

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

Collect for the Third Sunday after Trinity

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, without whom nothing is strong and nothing is holy, multiply Your mercy on us that, with You as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through 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:** *Erich Greschner (6/18), Matthias Woods (6/20), Carol Zick (6/22).*
- Wedding Anniversaries:** *Bryan and Kathy Stoltenberg, Reuben and Laurie Roe (6/21).*
- The Sick:** *Rev. Dan McMiller (stage IV kidney disease); Jeanette Kellar, Jim Cardo, Rick Schuerman, Bill Spilger, Rev. Luke Boehringer, Jean Reuss, and Gabby Hartwig for cancer.*
- Those in Hospice:** *Yet Ngor Wong (grandmother-Nicola Giordano)*
- Those Who Mourn:** *families and friends of Rev. Dr. John Wille and Nancy Harrison (mother of Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison).*

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

Hymn of the Week

“Lord, to You I Make Confession”

<p>Looking forward to the Fourth Sunday after Trinity</p> <p>Hymns: 599, 696, 815, 683, 617, 766</p> <p>Genesis 50:15-21: <i>Joseph, who forgave his brothers, stands as an icon to us of Christ. In the death of Jesus, the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh meant evil against Him but God meant it for good, to save many people alive as it is this day. All of the “wicked and evil things” that happen in the lives of Christians still bear the stamp of God’s approval, not because He delights in evil, but to turn evil into our eternal good. Joseph is an icon of Christ because he endured all manner of wickedness at the hands of his brothers which God used to bring about their repentance and salvation.</i></p> <p>Romans 8:18-23: <i>Paul teaches us about the hope of the resurrection, declaring that “The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.” The promise of resurrection is the source of our comfort in the midst of this vale of tears.</i></p> <p>Luke 6:36-42: <i>“Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful” (vs. 36). “Jesus is not speaking here of the kind of mercy that human reason commends and suggests to us. This is a mercy which is selfish and self-seeking, which gives to those who are important and learned, to those who have earned it and merited it, to those whom it loves or who are beautiful, to those from whom it can expect some benefit or advantage. This is a particular, beggarly, tattered and tousel mercy. For if I give to him who has earned it, or if I consider beauty or friendship, I am only performing a duty or paying a debt and not carrying out an act of mercy at all... The mercy of Christians does not seek its own advantage or repayment of any kind. It ... [is] always extended in all directions. We ... open our eyes and keep them fixed on all men alike, on friend and foe, and [are] merciful, even as our heavenly Father is merciful.” - Martin Luther</i></p>	<p>June 23, 2024</p>
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