

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Fourth Sunday after Trinity
 June 23, 2024, through June 30, 2024

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 27: A Prayer of Faith and Confidence in the Lord’s Salvation—Psalm 27 begins with two rhetorical questions that rest upon confident assertions of faith in the Gospel. It is as if David were saying, “since the LORD is my light and my salvation, then whom shall I fear?” Answer: No one! “Since the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” Answer: No one! Clearly it is the Lord’s will that we know with certainty that He is our Savior from all sin, death, and from the power of the devil. Since He has died for us and redeemed us from eternal destruction, we have nothing to fear from anyone or anything that would seek to destroy us! Psalm 27 prays for the Lord’s help, deliverance, guidance, and forgiveness on the basis of everything that Jesus has done in love for us. Christ is our confidence. To hear and receive Christ is also the singular delight of the Christian: “One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple.”

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: Be Merciful as Your Father in Heaven Is Merciful!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 8:33-34

Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies.
 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen,
 who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Psalm 27 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, You are my light and my salvation; You are the strength of my life! Therefore, grant that I may not fear any enemy of my faith but rest in the confidence of our salvation and hide me in the shelter of Your divine services of Word and Sacrament; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	98, 100	101	103	105	107	109	112, 113	115
Evening	99	102	104	106	108	110, 111	114	116

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Be Merciful as Your Father in Heaven Is Merciful—Luke 6:36-42	
Monday	Paul, the Roman Citizen, Leaves Philippi—Acts 16:35-40 Nativity of St. John the Baptist—Luke 1:57-80	Romans 8:12-18
Tuesday	Paul Preaches in the Synagogues at Thessalonica & Berea—Acts 17:1-15	Romans 8:18-25
Wednesday	Paul Preaches in the Areopagus of Athens—Acts 17:16-34	Romans 8:26-31
Thursday	The Ministry of Paul in Corinth—Acts 18:1-22	Romans 8:32-39
Friday	Paul’s Third Missionary Journey Begins—Acts 18:23—19:10	Romans 9:1-13
Saturday	The Miracles Worked by Paul—Acts 19:11-20 St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles—Acts 15:1-21	Romans 9:14-30

The Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism— Part IV

What does such baptizing with water indicate? It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.	Third Grade +
Where is this written? St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six:	First Grade +
We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death	Kindergarten +
in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. [Rom. 6:4]	Second Grade +

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

Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by Your governance that Your Church may joyfully serve You in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen

Collect for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24)

Almighty God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, You once proclaimed salvation. Now grant that we may know this salvation and serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Collect for St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles (June 29)

Merciful and eternal God, Your holy apostles Peter and Paul received grace and strength to lay down their lives for the sake of Your Son. Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit that we may confess Your truth and at all times be ready to lay down our lives for Him who laid down His life for us, even 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: Heather Skrepenski (6/24), Cheri’ LaFore (6/26), Gabrielle Ligrow (6/27), Betsy Banasik (6/28), Elton Volquardsen, Jon Bruss (6/29). **Wedding Anniversaries:** Stan and Joan Heine (6/23), Brett and Kara Rhode (6/26), Chuck and Jan Finke, Brian and Heaven Knutson (6/28).

The Sick: Carol Bender recovering from hip surgery; 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: family and friends Elaine Neujahr (mother of Lee Neujahr) who passed away.

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

Hymn of the Week

“O God, My Faithful God”

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Looking forward to the Fifth Sunday after Trinity

June 30, 2024

Hymns: 583, 585, 573, 828, 823, 718

I Kings 19:11-21: The prophet Elijah is shown by the Lord that the Lord’s greatest power and glory will be demonstrated in the “still small voice” of His Word that preaches salvation to the poorest and lowliest sinner. So it is for us, in the time of faith, this earthly life, the Lord comes to us in His Word. Unlike Satan, He does not force Himself upon us in an oppressive and coercive way; He speaks to us, calling us to repentance and faith that He might bestow upon us the freedom of life with God through the forgiveness of all our sins.

I Peter 3:8-15: In his epistle to the church that is sojourning through this world, the Apostle Peter encourages her members to live each day by the common faith they confess and by the common love they share: “Be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this.” It is by the characteristics of mercy, compassion, and forbearance that the church should be known in this world. The call of the Gospel of God’s grace enables us to live in grace toward others and this is what the world should see from Christians. When asked, “Why do you live like this?” We are prepared “to give a defense to everyone who ask...a reason for the hope that is in [us] with meekness and fear.”

Luke 5:1-11: By a great miracle, Jesus called four fishermen to be fishers of men in token that the Gospel must be preached to the four corners of the earth. Peter, on behalf of all ministers, rightly confessed “we have toiled ... and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your Word” we will preach the Gospel. This miraculous sign gave Peter a deep sense of his own sinfulness. The minister of the Gospel has no strength apart from the Word he is called to preach. But this Word is all-sufficient for the task at hand. “To obtain faith in Christ” the Lutheran reformers declared in the Augsburg Confession, “God instituted the preaching office to give the Gospel and Sacraments. Through these (the Gospel and Sacraments) the Holy Spirit works faith when and where He pleases in those who hear the Gospel.” (Augsburg Confession, Art. V)