

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
 September 1, 2024, through September 8, 2024

Catechesis Notes for the Week — The Stories of David—The Old Testament narratives this fall take us from the beginning of the Monarchy of David, when he is persecuted and hunted by the apostate King Saul, to the divided kingdom of Judah and Israel, and the return of the exiles. As we meditate upon David’s life and ministry, we are to think of the greater Son of David, our Lord Jesus Christ. David the shepherd, at his best, gives us a picture of Jesus. He is merciful, compassionate, he draws to himself those who are suffering and downtrodden. In the book of psalms, so many of which were written by David, we see a man of faith, like our Lord, who “calls upon God in every trouble, who prays, praises, and give thanks.” In David’s life, unlike Jesus, we also see a man of sinful weakness. Yet even this teaches us much about living as sinners by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord’s promises did not fail David. He was called to repentance for his failings, he heard the voice of the Lord, and in contrition and repentance returned to the Lord repeatedly. The penitential psalms, like 38, 32, and 51, give us examples of what the baptismal life of the Christian is really like. We are called to daily contrition and repentance for our sin, to faith in Christ’s mercy, that the Lord might bring forth in us, as He did for David, His good works and the fruits of faith.

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: Jesus Is the Path of Life

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Psalm 111:10

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
 a good understanding have all those who do His commandments,
 His praise endures forever.

Psalm 84 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, the congregation of Christians, among whom the Gospel is preached and the Holy Sacraments are administered to the baptized faithful, is the most lovely place of Your saving presence. Give us grace ever to dwell in Your house where You strengthen our faith, enliven our hope, and shield us from every enemy. Hear our prayers and teach us to rely with absolute confidence upon your gracious promises, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	119:49-72	119:89-112	119:137-152	122, 123	125, 126	128, 129	131, 132	135
Evening	119:73-88	119:113:136	119:153-176	124	127	130	133, 134	136

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Jesus Cleanses the Ten Lepers—Luke 17:11-19	
Monday	Labor Day: Saul Murders the Priests of Nob—1 Samuel 22:3-23	1 Timothy 3:14—4:5
Tuesday	David Saves the City of Keilah—1 Samuel 23:1-13	1 Timothy 4:6-16
Wednesday	David Hides in the Wilderness—1 Samuel 23:14-29	1 Timothy 5:1-16
Thursday	David Spares Saul’s Life—1 Samuel 24:1–25:1	1 Timothy 5:17-25
Friday	David and Abigail—1 Samuel 25:2-44	1 Timothy 6:1-11
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—1 Kings 17:8-16	Galatians 5:25—6:10

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments—The Third and Fourth Commandments

What is the Third Commandment? Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.	First Grade +
What is the Fourth Commandment? Honor your father and your mother.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.	First Grade +

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

Collect for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and charity; and that we may obtain what You have promised, make us love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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...”

Military: Jessica Franklin (Air Force); John Franklin (Minnesota National Guard); Evon Ingraham (Army Reserves); Morgan Thoni (Navy); and David Uttenreither (Army).

Baptism: Veronica Skye Meyer infant daughter of Patrick and Sierra Meyer.

Baptismal Anniversaries: Noah DePue (9/1), Liam Daleiden (9/2), Sue Kaminski, Dan Laubenstein (9/4), Faith Daleiden (9/6).

Wedding Anniversaries: Brian and Melissa Brendel (9/4), Mark and Melody Ruhbusch (9/6).

Thanksgiving for healing: Mark Goltermann and George Kaminski from heart surgery.

The Sick: Harold Kampin hospitalized with an infection and cancer; James Lampen, (father of Karen Frerking) in rehab; Rev. David Groth, Jeanette Kellar, Rick Schuerman, Rev. Luke Boehringer, Jean Reuss, Jim Cardo, and Steve Hayes (brother-in-law of Marty & Jon Bruss) in cancer treatment.

Those in Hospice: Bill Spilger, and Yet Ngor Wong.

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

Hymn of the Week

“Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide” (stanzas 1-4)

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Looking forward to the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 8, 2024

Hymns: 719, 760, 732, 736, 424, 598

I Kings 17:8-16: The Lord provided for the widow of Zarephath. Daily bread that sustains the body is a gift of God’s grace to all people. We are to learn through how He provides for us every moment of every day that He will surely provide us with the greater gifts of His salvation in Christ. The Lord not only provided daily bread for this widow and her son, but He also provided her with the one thing needful above all else: the Lord’s saving Word.

Galatians 5:25-6:10: St. Paul describes the life of faith in the grace of God in Christ: We seek to restore those who have fallen from the faith; we bear one another’s burdens; we live in humility toward one another, considering others as better than ourselves; we support our ministers and those who teach us the life-giving Word of God with in the Church; and we take every opportunity to do good to all, especially to those of the household of faith, because that is what Christ has done for us.

Matthew 6:24-34: In our Baptism we are placed IN CHRIST, so that all that He is and has done for us might be ours and so that we might live confidently and joyfully IN CHRIST. In this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus catechizes us on the First Commandment: You shall have no other gods! According to the First Commandment, we are to depend upon God and trust in Him for everything without doubting. We cannot serve two masters. Worry does not give us the food to eat, the clothes to wear, or the protection we need. If God takes care of the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, then God will take care of us. How comforting it is to know and learn to believe that God’s care for us is NOT dependent upon our strength of faith. The conclusion of this section invites us to “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness” and we will be freed from all the anxiety of life. This final word directs us to Jesus. He ushers in God’s kingdom. His suffering and death upon the cross for us is “the righteousness of God” that covers all our sin. The more our faith is fixed upon Him and all that He has done for us, the more the idolatry of worry and anxiety of life flees from us. It is in Jesus that we see the perfect man of faith. He fears, loves, and trusts in His Father above all things. Because He did this for us, we are clothed with a more glorious garment than the lilies of the field and we are fed with a food that is more nourishing than anything this creation has to offer. “Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things.”