

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

The Week of All Saints' Day

November 2nd through November 9, 2025

Catechesis Notes for Week—The Third Article of the Creed — “Neither you nor I could ever know anything of Christ or believe in him and take him as our Lord, unless these were first offered to us and bestowed on our hearts through the preaching of the Gospel by the Holy Spirit. The work is finished and completed; Christ has acquired and won the treasure for us by his sufferings, death, and resurrection, etc. But if the work had remained hidden and no one knew of it, it would have been all in vain, all lost. In order that this treasure might not be buried but put to use and enjoyed, God has caused the Word to be published and proclaimed, in which he has given the Holy Spirit to offer and apply to us this treasure of salvation. Therefore to sanctify is nothing else than to bring us to the Lord Christ to receive this blessing, which we could not obtain by ourselves ... Further we believe that in this Christian church we have the forgiveness of sins, which is granted through the holy sacraments and absolution as well as through all the comforting words of the entire Gospel. Toward forgiveness is directed everything that is to be preached concerning the sacraments and, in short, the entire Gospel and all the duties of Christianity. Forgiveness is needed constantly, for although God's grace has been won by Christ, and holiness has been wrought by the Holy Spirit through God's Word in the unity of the Christian church, yet because we are encumbered with our flesh we are never without sin.” — *The Large Catechism, Third Article*

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: Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit!

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: John 6:63

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing.

The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life.

Psalms 149 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on Psalm 149: Lord God, heavenly Father, grant us faithfulness in our worship that we may truly praise You by singing the new song of salvation in Christ, and by faithfully preaching Your Law and Gospel to all; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	135	137, 138	140, 141	144	147	148	1, 2	5
Evening	136	139	142, 143	145	146	149, 150	3	4, 6

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	All Saints': The Beatitudes—Matthew 5:1-12	
Monday	Harvest Observance—Luke 12:13-21	2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Tuesday	God's Covenant with Abram—Promise of a Son—Genesis 15:1-6	Galatians 2:16; 3:6-9
Wednesday	Hagar and Ishmael—Genesis 16:1-16	Galatians 3:19—4:7
Thursday	Circumcision and Abram's Name Change—Genesis 17:1-11 (12-14)	Romans 4:1-3, 7-13
Friday	Sarai's Name Change—Genesis 17:15-27	Romans 4:13-25
Saturday	Trinity 21: Genesis 1:1—2:3	Ephesians 6:10-17

Catechism: The Creed—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 +

What does this mean?

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.

First Grade +

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.

Second Grade +

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

Collect for All Saints'

Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Harvest Observance

Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather in the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, may we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need; 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

Sunday: For the joy of the resurrection among us
Monday: For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work
Tuesday: For deliverance against temptation and evil and those struggling with besetting sins
Wednesday: For marriage and family
Thursday: For the Church and her pastors; and for fruitful and salutary use of the Lord's Supper
Friday: For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the persecuted and oppressed
Saturday: For the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away from Christ.

In Our Prayers this Week — "Let us pray for..."

Baptism: Rosie Grace Franklin, infant daughter of Josh and Bethany Franklin.

Baptismal anniversaries: John Uttenreither (11/2); Nancy LaFore, Sierra Meyer (11/5); Caleb Gierach (11/6); Donna Lovas (11/7).

Wedding anniversaries: Kevin and Valerie Zalewski (11/2); Elton and Angela Volquardsen (11/5).

The sick: Mark Anderson (brother of Lynn Leider), recovering from extensive injuries due to a fall; Del Duwe, recovering from pneumonia; Geri Zaretzke, suffering with congestive heart failure; Carol Bender and Richard Leach (Peggy Lundberg's father) in rehab; Kevin Kehres, awaiting hip replacement surgery; Bob Corso, recovering at home from an aortic valve replacement; Melissa Brendel, recovering from surgery; Dorothee Behling recovering from accident; Chrissy Artru (friend of the Duesslers), undergoing treatment for kidney transplant rejection.

In cancer treatment: Tim Francis (brother of Cheri LaFore), diagnosed with a cancerous lesion and awaiting further results; Loretta Lampen, Ivy Kunkel, Tracy Espinosa, Laurie Roe, Ken Hinckle, Gary Luderman, Diane Bulawa, and Rev. Luke Boehringer.
In Hospice Care: Reed Brown (brother-in-law to Frank and Rosie Kopling)

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

Hymn of the Week

"Behold a Host, Arrayed in White" (stanza 1)

TLH 656

Looking forward to the Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity

November 9, 2025

Hymns: 578, 607, 533, 602, 512, 603

Genesis 1:1-2:3: "God SAID, and it was so..." "God CALLED" exercising His gracious dominion. "God SAID" it was very good..." All of creation rests upon God's life-creating and life-sustaining Word. Apart from the Word of God nothing was made that was made; and by the Word of God all things continue to be sustained. God grant us faith to receive His Word, to rejoice in its life-giving and saving gifts, and to delight above all things to hear it preached and taught for the preservation of our life and salvation in Christ.

Ephesians 6:10-17: St. Paul describes the armor of a Christian and our one offensive weapon. Each of these items of a Christian's armor—the girded waist with truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shod feet with the Gospel of peace, the shield of faith, and the helmet of salvation—are all images that reflect what the strong Word of the Gospel gives to us. And the only "offensive weapon" we have is "the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." Let us take up these gifts of God's Word and rest confidently in their protection.

John 4:46-54: The miracle of the healing of the nobleman's son teaches us that the Lord Jesus is present wherever His Word is faithfully preached and that His Word delivers to us His salvation. Human reason wants to rely upon signs, but even when signs are given, still the sinful flesh does not want to believe. Only the Word can create faith. Only the Word can deliver the blessings of Christ's salvation. When the nobleman came to Jesus, he was desperate. His son lay at the point of death. He wanted Jesus to come into his home and save him. Jesus did exactly that by the Word He spoke: "Go your way; your son lives." That Word was true and delivered life to his son, even though he was not at home "to see" the results. The father later learned that his son was alive and that he was healed at the very moment that Jesus spoke the Word. This is what we are called to believe throughout our lives. Not only is the Word of Christ alone the source of our salvation and the object of our faith; but the Word of Christ alone gives certainty, takes away doubt, and comforts the soul of the Christian.