

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the week of Laetare (Lent 4)

March 22 – 28, 2020

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the catechism, hymn of the week, and verse for the week.

Invocation

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

Amen.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.**

Psalm *Psalm 132:8–18 (antiphon: 13)*

Recite Memory Work (*see back page*)

Day	Reading
Sunday	Mk. 11:20-33
Monday	Mk. 12:1-12
Tuesday	Mk. 12:13-27
Wednesday	Mk. 12:28-44
Thursday	Mk. 13:1-23
Friday	Mk. 13:24-37
Saturday	Mk. 14:1-11

Next Sundays Readings: OT: Gen. 22:1-14 Ep: Heb. 9:11-15

Gos: John 8:46-59

Prayers

Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

O Lord, look down from heaven, behold, visit and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers:

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Bernice Wiese
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod	Marge Meyer
(The Revd) President Matthew Harrison	Velva Christensen
(The Revd) President Richard Snow	Elaine Gonnerman
Our Concordia Seminaries, Colleges, and Schools	Gayle Schwenck
Our Sister Churches	Lavona Lanik
The United States of America	Kathryn Miller
President Donald Trump	Loren Knight
Governor Pete Ricketts	Valorie Hamar
Sarah Gramlich	Pastor Zachary Courie
Gloria Krueger	
Lee & Sandra Wade	
John & Addy Chapek	
Judy Oaklund	

Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy; grant them comfort and sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

(Morning) I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

(Evening) I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day. And I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Memory Work

The Catechism – The Sacrament of the Altar

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Where is this written?

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Who receives this Sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

Hymn of the Week: Jesus, Priceless Treasure #743

1. Jesus, priceless treasure, Fount of purest pleasure, Truest friend to me, Ah, how long in anguish Shall my spirit languish, Yearning, Lord, for Thee? Thou art mine, O Lamb divine! I will suffer naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask beside Thee.
2. In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would molest me Cannot reach me here. Though the earth be shaking, Ev’ry heart be quaking, Jesus calms my fear. Lightnings flash And thunders crash; Yet, though sin and hell assail me, Jesus will not fail me.

Verse for the Week:

“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.” - *John 6:35*