

THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

The week of the first Sunday in Lent

March 1-7, 2020

Catechetical Notes for the week: *The fourth part of Baptism teaches us that Baptism is not a past event, but a present reality of who we are. We were not baptized, but we are baptized. Daily we live in our Baptisms by dying to sin and living for righteousness. Daily every evil is drowned and a new man rises to live before God. Daily we remember this Bath. This is done by living in repentance, that is, constantly turning away from ourselves and toward God. Repentance is worked in us by God alone through His Means of Grace. We live in repentance because we live in forgiveness. We need it daily. This, then, is who we are: God's baptized children forever. The fourth part of Baptism shows us that we continually sin and so continually we need to run back to the font in repentant faith so that raised by the Spirit we may live holy lives. It calls us to repentance and faith in the God who continues to work repentance and faith in our hearts and will never leave us or forsake those who come to Him in faith.*

Theme: Faith clings to the Word.

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

APOSTLES' CREED

BIBLE VERSE: 1 Peter 3:18 For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.

<i>What does such baptizing with water indicate?</i> 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.	2nd Grade+
<i>Where is this written?</i> St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six:	K+
We were therefore buried with Him through Baptism into death	Preschool+
in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead we too may live a new life.	1st Grade+

DAILY READING		<i>The Story Bible page</i>
Monday	Jonah 1-2:10	199
Tuesday	Acts 9:1-19	434
Wednesday	Acts 14:21-28	445
Thursday	2 Kings 25:27-30	238
Friday	Matthew 3:1-13	295
Saturday	Genesis 32:22-32; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7; Matthew 15:21-28	(John 1:35-51) 304

PRAYER

Pray the Catechism: *(The catechetical notes are meant to assist you in this.)*

Example:

Repeat the fourth part of Baptism

A teaching: Dear Father, in the fourth part of Baptism You teach me that my Baptism is my daily garment which avails before you. And each day I am cast off the old and put on the new through repentance and faith.

A thanksgiving: I thank You for giving me new life in Christ, leading me in godly living, and covering all my sin.

A confession: I confess and ask for grace that I lived according to the flesh and not according to my Baptism daily. I have failed.

A prayer: I ask You to drown my sin daily in the rosy-red waters of Baptism and lead me to all godliness.

Personal prayers: *(suggestions listed below)*

Sunday: *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word.*

Monday: *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for your calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for government; and for peace.*

Tuesday: *Pray for deliverance against temptation; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; and for those struggling with besetting sins.*

Wednesday: *Pray for marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; for parents who must rear their children alone; and for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

Thursday: *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; and for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.*

Friday: *Pray for the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

Saturday: *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the sick and dying; for the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; and for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

Prayer for the first Sunday in Lent

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayer: and stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty; to defend us from all those who rise up against us, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, and the Holy Spirit; one God, now and forever.

Luther's Morning/Evening Prayer

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.