

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Third Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 23, 2022 through January 30, 2022

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Denying Self and Taking Up the Cross** — This third week of meditation upon Holy Baptism leads us into the daily significance of our Baptism: "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." Let us unpack these words. Contrition and repentance are part of what it means to believe in Christ and let go of the self for salvation. Contrition is that aspect of faith that realizes and believes that we have sinned against the God who loves us and it grieves our heart. The New Man of faith desires to love and trust in Christ above all things. Daily contrition recognizes that we still daily sin much and need His daily mercy and forgiveness. Repentance is that aspect of faith that not only confesses sin, but does so with the conviction that Christ alone is the Savior from that sin. Contrition and repentance desire to hear and receive Christ's forgiveness. They yearn to hear Christ's life-giving Word by which faith is strengthened, comfort is bestowed, and the New Man arises. The New Man is Christ Himself in us, joined by the Spirit with our spirit, who lives joyously and confidently in the everlasting "righteousness, innocence, and blessedness" of the cross. The New Man is born in us in Holy Baptism and daily arises from contrition and repentance by the Word of forgiveness. This is why it can be said that the Baptismal life of contrition and repentance leads us to confession and absolution and why confession and absolution are a return to our Baptism. Contrition and repentance, the renouncing of self in confession, the clinging to Christ's Word of grace that makes us alive, are what Jesus teaches in this week's Bible verse: "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9:23)

## 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.

### Invocation

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

### Apostles' Creed

#### Verse of the week: Luke 9:23

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

#### Psalm 19 and/or the appointed daily psalms as listed below

Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	45	48, 49	51	54, 56	59	60, 61	65	66
Evening	46, 47	50	52, 53	55	57, 58	62	63, 64	67, 70

### 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 +

## **Readings for the Week of the Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Bible Stories for the Family and Academy</b>	<b>Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299</b>	
Sunday	<b>Jesus Is Rejected at Nazareth—Luke 4:16-30</b>	Joel 2:18-32	Rom. 11:25-12:13
Monday	Exodus 19-21	Joel 3:1-12	Rom. 12:14-13:14
Tuesday	Exodus 22-24	Zech. 1:1-21	Rom. 14:1-23
Wednesday	Exodus 25-27	Zech. 2:1-3:10	Rom. 15:1-13
Thursday	Exodus 28-29	Zech. 4:1-5:11	Rom. 15:14-33
Friday	Exodus 30-32	Zech. 6:1-7:14	Rom. 16:17-27
Saturday	Exodus 33-38	Zech. 8:1-23	2 Tim. 1:1-18

**Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Victory in Christ**

### **Collect for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany:**

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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**

- Sunday:** Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** Pray 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:** Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.
- Wednesday:** Pray 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:** Pray 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 sacraments of Christ's body and blood.
- Friday:** Pray 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:** Pray 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 at Victory in Christ this Week**

#### **Healing**

Pastor Stephen Gallo, Tom Buck, Aaron Hayden, Barbara Lee, Arlene Davis, Darin Mitchell, Darlene Rohloff, Henry Ostermann, Antonia Menendez, Grace Metoxen, Larry Seger, Dante Pelligrino, Collene Pelligrino, Bobbie Sherrod, Gordon Munson, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

#### **Strength**

Peg Munson and the Rice family

#### **Our Shut-ins**

#### **Employment**

#### **Peace and Comfort**

#### **Expectant Mothers**

Rachel Patterson

#### **Military and Over Seas**

Kyle Rohloff

#### **College Students**

Nathan Campbell, Hailey Richardson, Jared Rohloff, Kara Rohloff, Logan Rohloff

#### **Seminarian**

John Schober

#### **Blessings**

#### **Mission / Ministries**

The missions we support and the future of our Academy

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

**Hymn of Week**

**"O Christ, Our True and Only Light"**

**LSB 839**