

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023 through March 26, 2023*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — "What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors" — This section from the Table of Duties speaks of the responsibility of the congregation to provide temporal support for her pastor who faithfully preaches the Gospel and administers the Sacraments to her members. Every Christian is called by the Gospel to "share all good things with his instructor." It is a mockery of God when members of the congregations turn a deaf ear to the Word of God and a hard heart toward the care of their pastors. Such neglect flows from impenitence and unbelief. Where there is faith there will be love, affection, and generous support of the Church's pastors by her members. Chief among the duties of Christians is the faithful hearing of the Word of God when it is preached and taught by our pastors. Pastors receive the greatest joy in their ministry when the people of the congregation come eagerly to hear the Word of God when it is taught and receive it with joy and the hearty "Amen" of faith. The "Amen" of faith is confessed in the way in which the congregation takes care of her pastor.

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: 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a

"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends."

Psalm 142 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	84	119:73-80	34	5	38	22	43	84
Evening	42, 32	121, 6	25, 91	27, 51	126, 102	107, 130	31, 143	42, 32

The Catechism: The Table of Duties—What Hearers Owe Their Pastors – First Half

What does God's Word say the hearers of God's Word owe their pastors?	Grade
The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. <i>1 Corinthians 9:14</i>	First Grade +
Anyone who receives instruction in the Word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. <i>Galations 6:6-7</i>	Second Grade +
The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." <i>1 Timothy 5:17-18</i>	Third Grade +

Readings for the Week of the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	Jesus Heals the Man Born Blind—John 9:1-41	Gen. 41:28-57	Mark 11:20-33
Monday	Judges 6-7	Gen. 42:1-34, 38	Mark 12:1-12
Tuesday	Judges 8-9	Gen. 43:1-28	Mark 12:13-27
Wednesday	Judges 10-12	Gen. 44:1-18, 32-24	Mark 12:28-44
Thursday	Judges 13-15	Gen. 45:1-20, 24-28	Mark 13:1-23
Friday	Judges 16-18	Gen. 47:1-31	Mark 13:24-37
Saturday	Judges 19-21, Ruth	Gen. 49:29-50:7, 14-26	Mark 14:1-11

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

Collect for the week of the Fourth Sunday in Lord:

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

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

Erin Sosa, Gary Rohloff, Don Foltz, Hudson Haney, Tim Finstad, Perrin King, Gordon Munson, Peg Munson, Taelor Slagle, Lee Wilson, Darlene Biehle, Kenneth Biehle, Henry Ostermann, Grace Metoxen, Dante Pellegrino, Collene Pellegrino, Bobbie Sherrod, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

Strength

Norma Sandel, the Martin, Courtney, Bradshaw, Herbel, Menendez, and Rice families, and Grace House Fort Worth

Our Shut-ins

Deena Strang

Employment

Peace and Comfort

Expectant Mothers

Military and Over Seas

Kyle 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

"God Loved the World So That He Gave"

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