

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the week of the Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024 through April 28, 2024*

Catechesis Notes for the Week— The Ultimate Good—Faith in Christ for salvation from sin and death is the ultimate good. This is what God is working for in every circumstance of our lives, even the hardship and adversity: that we might be preserved in faith.

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: Deuteronomy 6:6-7

“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

Psalm 23 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	40	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56	59	60, 61
Evening	39, 41	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55	57, 58	62

The Catechism: The Third through Six Commandments

<p><i>What is the Third Commandment?</i> Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.</p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.</p>	First Grade +
<p><i>What is the Fourth Commandment?</i> Honor your father and your mother.</p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.</p>	First Grade +
<p><i>What does Scripture say to children?</i> Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and your mother” - which is the first commandment with a promise - “that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.” Ephesians 6:1-3</p>	Kindergarten +
<p><i>What is the Fifth Commandment?</i> You shall not murder.</p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What is the Sixth Commandment?</i> You shall not commit adultery.</p>	Preschool +

Readings for the Week of the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	“I Am the Good Shepherd”—John 10:11-18	Lev. 8:1-13, 30-36	Luke 9:1-17
Monday	The Lord Gives Signs—Exodus 6:28—7:25	Lev. 9:1-24	Luke 9:18-36
Tuesday	The Plagues—Ex. 8:1-4 (7-10) 13-25, 32; 9:1-4, 7-35; 10:3-6 (7-11) 20-29	Lev. 10:1-20	Luke 9:37-62
Wednesday	The Death of the Firstborn Is Announced—Exodus 11:1-10	Lev. 16:1-24	Luke 10:1-22
Thursday	The Passover Is Instituted—Exodus 12:1-14	Lev. 17:1-16	Luke 10:23-42
Friday	The Death of the Firstborn—Exodus 12:21-30	Lev. 18:1-7, 20-19:8	Luke 11:1-13
Saturday	Catch Up on Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Lev. 19:9-18, 26-37	Luke 11:14-36

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

Collect for the week of the Fourth Sunday of Easter:

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same 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

David Baker, Peggy Wahlstedt, Audrey Stoneburner, Theresa Rohloff, Cindy Witherspoon, Cliff Johnson, Joseph Menendez, Arlene Davis, Darin Mitchell, Liz Lovato, Melissa Rodgers, Connie Smith, Ella Littlefield, Tommy Rodhe, Gordon Munson, Kenneth Biehle, Henry Ostermann, Dante Pellegrino, Collene Pellegrino, Bobbie Sherrod, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

Strength

Angel Menendez, and the Martin, Courtney, Bradshaw, Herbel, and Menendez families

Our Shut-ins

Emily Snipes, Deena Strang, Coy Warfield

Peace and Comfort

Blessings

Expectant Mothers

April Hill, Esther Schielke

Military and Over Seas

Kyle Rohloff

Seminarians

Justin Chester, Dan Hollister, Tanner Sawall, John Schober

Mission / Ministries

Our Academy and the missions we support

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

Hymn of Week

"Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain"

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