

11 RECITE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM AND MEANING

The First Article

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean for us?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

12 PRAYER BASED ON THE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM

Prayer based on the First Article (Part 3) of the Apostles' Creed - Heavenly Father, out of Your fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, You have created me and endowed me with all that I have in this body and life, and You continue to defend me from all danger and guard and protect me from all evil. Receive now my thanks and praise for all of Your gifts, and shape my life to serve and obey You in the callings which You have given me; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen. [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 145]

13 IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK - INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

- ⇒ For President John Wille being treated for Prostate Cancer
- ⇒ For Merlin Wangen in Memory Care at Spring Brook Assisted Living
- ⇒ For Pam Benrud being treated for breast cancer
- ⇒ For Jacquelyn Menuier with extensive surgery on her thumb
- ⇒ For Mary Beth Greenberg with breast cancer
- ⇒ For Bev Kuehn for medical diagnosis and treatment causing pain in her arms and fatigue

14 HYMN OF THE WEEK AND UPCOMING SUNDAY LESSONS

657 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God: *stnz 1* A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious; He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation glorious. The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe. With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal. *stnz 2* No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected. But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected. You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He, Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious. *stnz 3* Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us, We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot over-pow'r us. Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage. His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him. *stnz 4* God's Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it; For God Himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit. Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day. The Kingdom's ours forever!

For February 25, 2024, Second Sunday in Lent: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 God renames Abram and Sarai.; **Psalm 22:23-31** "All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD."; **Romans 5:1-11** "We were reconciled to God."; **Mark 8:27-38** Take up your cross and follow Me.



The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

A guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the First Sunday in Lent
February 18 through February 24

1 INVOCATION - MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS AND SAY:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2 CONFESS THE 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 .

3 PRAY 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.

4 PRAY THE MORNING OR 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.

5 AT MEAL TIME ASK BLESSING THEN AFTERWARDS RETURN THANKS

Blessing before meal

“The eyes of all look to You, [O LORD,] and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.” (Ps. 145: 15–16)

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Returning Thanks after meal

“Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love endures forever. [He] gives food to every creature. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the LORD delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love.” (Ps. 136:1, 25; 147:9–11)

We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

6 PRAY THE PSALMS

Lent	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	84, 150	119:73-80; 145	34, 146	5, 147:1-12	27, 147:13-21	22, 148	43, 149
Evening	42, 32	121, 6	25, 91	27, 51	126, 102	105, 130	31, 143

7 RECITE THE VERSE OF THE WEEK: Ephesians 6:11

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Theme of the Week: Jesus Overcomes Temptation and the Devil

8 READ DAILY SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

SUN

Daniel 9:3-10; Hebrews 2:10-18; John 12:44-50

MON

Genesis 37:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-19; Mark 1:1-13

TUE

Genesis 37:12-24; 1 Corinthians 1:20-31; Mark 1:14-28

WED

Genesis 37:25-36; 1 Corinthians 2:1-13; Mark 1:29-45

THU

Genesis 39:1-23; 1 Corinthians 2:14--3:15; Mark 2:1-12

FRI

Genesis 40:1-23; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23; Mark 2:13-22

SAT

Genesis 41:1-13; 1 Corinthians 4:1-7; Mark 2:23--3:6

9 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

First Sunday in Lent O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

10 READ INTRODUCTION TO PORTION OF CATECHISM FOR THIS WEEK

The First Article (Part 3) of the Apostles’ Creed – In Matthew 14 we read of Jesus feeding a great crowd. In the account we learn that there were five thousand men. This is not even counting women and children! And Jesus miraculously did this with five loaves and two fish! Not only is this a miracle, it is a demonstration of our heavenly Father’s generosity. It is abundant! And this abundant generosity only serves to illustrate in dramatic fashion how God generously supplies us every day. This daily provision is no less miraculous! For after all, do we come up with seeds and plants? Did we create the animals and fish? Everything on our daily tables has its source from God’s almighty hand. None of us is self-sufficient. We each receive life and support from outside ourselves. As Christians, we confess that every good thing, even the seemingly insignificant, comes to us as an undeserved gift from God.