

11 RECITE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM AND MEANING

The Third Petition

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean?

The good and gracious will is surely done without our prayer, but we ask in this prayer that it may be done also among us.

When does this happen?

God's will is done when he hinders and defeats every evil scheme and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful self, which would prevent us from keeping his name holy and would oppose the coming of his kingdom. And his will is done when he strengthens our faith and keeps us firm in his Word as long as we live. This is his gracious and good will.

12 PRAYER BASED ON THE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM

Prayer based on The Third Petition of the Lord's Prayer Merciful Father, ruler of all things in heaven and on earth, we acknowledge that Your good and gracious will is done without our prayer. We pray that You would defeat all that opposes Your will: the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature. In Your mercy, we implore You to strengthen and keep us firm in Your Word and faith all the days of our lives and bring us at last the inheritance You have prepared for us in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 257]

13 IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK - INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

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|--|---|
| ⇒ For Carol Halderson coping with dementia | dementia |
| ⇒ For Janet Sisul being cared for | ⇒ For Cynthia Granger, Naomi Rislow's sister |
| ⇒ For Karri Bjornstad's father, Birger Eklov, battling cancer. | battling cancer. |
| ⇒ For Pastor Dave Steffenson battling cancer | ⇒ For Phil & Pat Webber, Mary Bartos' parents |
| ⇒ For Sue Reget who suffered a brain aneurism | |
| ⇒ For Doris Stanke, Anne Warner's mother, with | |

14 HYMN OF THE WEEK AND UPCOMING SUNDAY LESSONS

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds LBW 143: *stnz 1* Now all the vault of heav'n resounds In praise of love that still abounds: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! *Stnz 2* Eternal is the gift he brings, Therefore our heart with rapture sings: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Now still he comes to give us life And by his presence stills all strife. Christ has triumphed! He is living! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! *Stnz 3* Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; Set heart and will on things above That we conquer through your triumph; Grant grace sufficient for life's day That by our lives we truly say: Christ has triumphed! He is living! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! *stnz 4* Adoring praises now we bring And with the heav'nly blessed sing: "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord, To Spirit blest, most holy God, All the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

For April 25, Fourth Sunday of Easter: **Acts 4:1-12** Peter and John are brought before the Council.; **Psalm 23** "The LORD is my shepherd."; **1 John 3:16-24** "Let us love in actions and in truth."; **John 10:11-18** "I know My sheep and My sheep know Me."



The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

A guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Third Sunday of Easter
April 18 through April 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,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our
Lord. He was conceived by the power of the
Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried. He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again. He ascended
into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of
the Father. He will come again to judge the
living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
catholic church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

4 PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

Morning. We give thanks to you,
heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ
your dear Son, that you have protected
us through the night from all danger and
harm. We ask you to preserve and keep
us, this day also, from all sin and evil,
that in all our thoughts, words and deeds
we may serve and please you. Into your
hands we commend our bodies and souls
and all that is ours. Let your holy angels
have charge of us, that the wicked one
have no power over us. Amen.

Evening. We give thanks to you,
heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ
your dear Son, that you have this day so
graciously protected us. We beg you to
forgive us all our sins and the wrong
which we have done. By your great
mercy defend us from all the perils and
dangers of this night. Into your hands we
commend our bodies and souls and all
that is ours. Let your holy angels have
charge of us, that the wicked one have
no power over us. Amen

5 AT MEAL TIME ASK BLESSING THEN AFTERWARDS RETURN THANKS

Blessing before meal

“The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season. You open wide your hand, and satisfy the needs of every living creature.” [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, for his mercy endures forever. He gives food to all creatures. He provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry. He is not impressed by the might of a horse, he has no pleasure in the strength of a man; but the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favor.” [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

Easter	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	93, 150	97, 145	98, 146	99, 147:1-12	47, 147:13-21	96, 148	92, 149
Evening	136, 117	124, 115	66, 116	9, 118	68, 113	49, 138	23, 114

7 RECITE THE VERSE OF THE WEEK: Luke 24:47

Repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

Theme of the Week: Repentance for the Forgiveness of Sins

8 READ DAILY SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

SUN

Daniel 4:1-18; 1 Peter 4:7-11; John 21:15-25

MON

Daniel 4:19-27; 1 John 3:19 – 4:6; Luke 4:13-30

TUE

Daniel 4:28-37; 1 John 4:7-21; Luke 4:31-37

WED

Daniel 5:1-12; 1 John 5:1-12; Luke 4:38-44

THU

Daniel 5:13-30; 1 John 5:13-21; Luke 5:1-11

FRI

Daniel 6:1-15; 2 John 1-13; Luke 5:12-26

SAT

Daniel 6:16-28; 3 John 1-15; Luke 5:27-39

9 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, 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 Third Petition of the Lord’s Prayer: “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven” – In contemplating doing the will of God we are reminded of all the obstacles our lord Jesus Himself confronted on His journey to the cross. In Matthew 26:36-46 we witness our Lord praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. You will recall His soul was sorrowful and troubled! Understandably Jesus recoiled at the thought of the suffering that lies ahead, not only physically on the cross, but also with the prospects of bearing the sins of the world. Jesus prayed, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me.” And yet He completed the prayer, “Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.” Thy will be done! As His followers we too encounter many obstacles in bringing the Gospel to the world. As Christians we pray in the Third Petition that God would not allow any obstacle to stand in the way of His gracious will – namely, that His Word and kingdom be extended.