

11 RECITE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM AND MEANING

2 What is private confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

12 PRAYER BASED ON THE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM

Prayer based on Confession and Absolution: Lord Jesus Christ, I give You thanks that my sins are forgiven before Your Father in heaven. By the Holy Spirit, give me grace to trust in Your promises and so live in the freedom and peace that You have won for me in Your death and resurrection. Amen [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 313]

13 IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK - INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

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| ⇒ For President John Wille being treated for Prostate Cancer | ⇒ For Jeri Molstad, Dan Molstad's sister-in-law with end stage cancer. |
| ⇒ For Merlin Wangen in Memory Care at Spring Brook Assisted Living | ⇒ For Renata Rislow, Tom Rislow's mom, recovering from a broken hip. |
| ⇒ For Carol Peterson with lung congestion and difficulty breathing | ⇒ For Amy Wieman, David Bjornstad's niece, with a recently diagnosed cancer. |
| ⇒ For Rodney Wilhelm recovering from heart surgery and a valve replacement | ⇒ For Pastor Mark Knappe recovering from a heart ablation treatment. |
| ⇒ For Charlie Hoff, Cyndi Molstad's brother-in-law with end stage cancer. | ⇒ For Andy Bales, Pr. Tim's Brother-in-law, with fungal meningitis and heart artery blockage. |

14 HYMN OF THE WEEK AND UPCOMING SUNDAY LESSONS

555 Salvation unto Us Has Come: *stnz 1* Salvation unto us has come By God's free grace and favor; Good works cannot avert our doom, They help and save us never. Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, Who did for all the world atone; He is our one Redeemer. *stnz 2* What God did in His Law demand And none to Him could render Caused wrath and woe on ev'ry hand For man, the vile offender. Our flesh has not those pure desires The spirit of the Law requires, And lost is our condition. *stnz 3* It was a false, misleading dream That God His Law had given That sinners could themselves redeem And by their works gain heaven. The Law is but a mirror bright To bring the inbred sin to light That lurks within our nature. *stnz 4* From sin our flesh could not abstain, Sin held its sway unceasing; The task was useless and in vain, Our guilt was e'er increasing. None can remove sin's poisoned dart Or purify our guileful heart— So deep is our corruption. *stnz 6* Since Christ has full atonement made And brought to us salvation, Each Christian therefore may be glad And build on this foundation. Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, Your death is now my life indeed, For You have paid my ransom. *△ stnz 10* All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise To Father, Son, and Spirit, The God who saved us by His grace; All glory to His merit. O triune God in heav'n above, You have revealed Your saving love; Your blessed name we hallow.

For October 1, 18th Sunday after Pentecost (Pr 21): **Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32** "When a wicked persons turns ... he shall save his life."; **Psalms 25:1-10** "Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love."; **Philippians 2:1-18** "Look ... to the interests of others."; **Matthew 21:23-32** Jesus and the elders; parable of the man with two sons



The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

A guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week 17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 24 through September 30

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

General Wk 2	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	19, 150	135, 145	123, 146	15; 147:1-12	116, 147:13-21	130, 148	56, 149
Evening	81, 113	97, 112	30, 86	48, 4	80, 27	32, 139	100, 63

7 RECITE THE VERSE OF THE WEEK: Ephesians 2:8

Alleluia. By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Alleluia.

Theme of the Week: Our Lord's Generosity

8 READ DAILY SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

SUN

1 Kings 12:21-33; Acts 4:18-31; John 10:31-42

MON

1 Kings 13:1-10; Philippians 1:1-11; Mark 15:40-47

TUE

1 Kings 16:23-34; Philippians 1:12-30; Mark 16:1-20

WED

1 Kings 17:1-24; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 2:1-12

THU

1 Kings 18:1-19; Philippians 22:12-30; Matthew 2:13-23

FRI

1 Kings 18:20-40; Philippians 3:1-16; Matthew 3:1-12

SAT

1 Kings 18:41-19:8; Philippians 3:17-4:7; Matthew 3:13-17

9 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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

Confession And Absolution the Second Question “What is Private Confession?” – Many Lutherans are surprised to learn that our Lutheran Confessions uphold the practice of private confession, that is, making a personal confession of sins to God before a Pastor. Unfortunately, a very helpful practice has fallen into disuse. But just as the prophet Nathan could audibly speak the word of God's forgiveness to King David in 2 Samuel 12, so we too can hear the comforting words of God's forgiveness spoken aloud by His appointed ambassadors today! Of course we hear this general word most every Sunday in the Divine Service spoken by the Pastor during the Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness when we hear the Pastor declare, “As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” This, of course, falls on the heels of our having confessed our sins to God. This is a tremendous word of promise and comfort. And yet, especially when heavily burdened in conscience, it may seem too general a word. Perhaps God forgives most others, but I am not sure He can forgive me? In Private Confession there is a Word of the Lord spoken to you alone at that moment. And with this Word, there is often further comfort and assurances from God's Word that is shared. For three weeks we will consider aspects of Private Confession...