

11 RECITE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM AND MEANING

The Third Article

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.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

12 PRAYER BASED ON THE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM

Prayer based on the Third Article (Part 1) of the Apostles' Creed - Holy Spirit, I give you thanks that you have called me to saving faith in my Lord Jesus Christ through his Gospel, for without you I could never come to him. By your words, which are spirit and life, keep me united with my Savior in true faith, always enlightening me with your gifts, and sanctifying me in body and soul to live for Christ alone; through my Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, forever one God. Amen. [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 204]

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 Mary Beth Greenberg with breast cancer
- ⇒ For Heather Roll with upcoming surgery and treatment for cancer.

14 HYMN OF THE WEEK AND UPCOMING SUNDAY LESSONS

430 My Song is Love Unknown: *stnz 1* My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be. Oh, who am I That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die? *stnz 2* He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow; But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know. But, oh, my friend, My Friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend! *stnz 3* Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing; Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King. Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry. *stnz 4* Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight. Sweet injuries! Yet they at these Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise. *stnz 5* They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away; A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay. Yet cheerful He To suff'ring goes That He His foes From thence might free. *stnz 6* In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have; In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave. What may I say? Heav'n was His home But mine the tomb Wherein He lay. *stnz 7* Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine! Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!

For March 24, 2024, Palm/Passion Sunday: **Zechariah 9:9-12** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.; **Philippians 2:5-11** He became obedient to death.; **Mark 14:1-15:47** **The Passion Narrative According to Mark**



The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

A guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 17 through March 23

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: Mark 10:45

Even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Theme of the Week: Christ Our Redeemer

8 READ DAILY SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

SUN

Exodus 3:16--4:12; Romans 12:1-21; John 8:46-59

MON

Exodus 4:10-20(21-26)27-31; 1 Corinthians 14:1-19; Mark 9:30-41

TUE

Exodus 5:1--6:1; 1 Corinthians 14:20-33a, 39-40; Mark 9:42-50

WED

Exodus 7:8-24; 2 Corinthians 2:14--3:6; Mark 10:1-16

THU

Exodus 7:25--8:19; 2 Corinthians 3:7-18; Mark 10:17-31

FRI

Exodus 9:13-35; 2 Corinthians 4:1-12; Mark 10:32-45

SAT

Exodus 10:21--11:8; 2 Corinthians 4:13-18; Mark 10:46-52

9 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Fifth Sunday in Lent Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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

The Third Article (Part 1) of the Apostles' Creed – When we read the account of Paul's conversion in Acts 9:1-22, or that of Lydia's conversion in Acts 16:13-15, we will note that both played a passive role. That is, they were acted upon first. And then, and only then, did they respond to the Divine initiative. In other words, they had not come to Christ, nor had they been seeking Him. Christ sought and came to them. Far from seeking Jesus as the Christ, Paul was actually on his way to Damascus to arrest the followers of Jesus. Christ revealed Himself to the future Apostle in a stark and overwhelming way. In Lydia's case Christ came to her in His word. We also read in Lydia's case that the Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. As lost and condemned sinners we are unable to find God on our own, let alone entrust our lives to Him. But as Christians, we confess that the Holy Spirit has made us new creatures by bringing us to saving faith in Jesus Christ. This faith is entrusted to our hearts by the Holy Spirit through the preaching of the Gospel.