

#### The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

A guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer For the Week of Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion April 13 through April 19

- 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.
- 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.

# 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.



### **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.



### Mealtime Blessing and then afterwards Returning 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



## Verse of the Week: Philippians 2:8b

He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

8

### **Daily Lectionary Readings**

**Sunday** ......Zechariah 9:9-12; 1 Timothy 6:12-16; Matthew 21:12-17

Monday .................Jeremiah 11:18-20; 12:1-17; Philippians 3:1-14; John 12:9-19

Tuesday............Jeremiah 15:10-21; Philippians 3:15-21; John 12:20-26

Wednesday....Jeremiah 17:5-10, 14-18; Philippians 4:1-13; John 12:27-36

Thursday ....... Jeremiah 20:7-18; 1 Cor 10:14-17; 11:27-32; John 17:1-26

**Friday....**Genesis 22:1-14; 1 Peter 1:10-20; John 13:36-38

**Saturday**..........Job 19:21-27a; Hebrews 4:1-16; Romans 8:1-11



#### The Collect for the Week

Palm Sunday / Sunday of the Passion Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



#### **Catechism Portion for the Week**

Holy Baptism the Second Question "What benefits does God give in Baptism?" – In response to the Apostle Peter's sermon on the Day of Pentecost we read, "the people were cut to the heart." They therefore asked, "What shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (see Acts 2:37-41) Here we see that Baptism is far more than a human religious ceremony. It does not belong in the category of a work we offer to God. Instead, it is a rich treasure included in God's Word! It is a treasure offered to us in faith. And if it offers us forgiveness, a cleansing of our sins, then it most certainly offers us life and salvation. For where there is forgiveness of sin there is also life and salvation. As Christians, we confess, "I am baptized! God promises that because I have been washed with 'water with the Word' (Ephesians 5:26), He has forgiven and saved me. I can trust His promises." God promises that wonderful gifts from Christ's victory on the Cross are delivered in Baptism - the Holy Spirit, forgiveness, belonging as a child of God today, and the resurrection of the body to eternal life when Christ returns.



#### Portion of the Catechism and Luther's Explanation

#### 2. What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

#### What these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)



#### **Prayer Based on the Portion of the Catechism**

**Prayer based on Holy Baptism the Second Question "What benefits does Baptism give?"** - Lord Jesus Christ, You have forgiven our sins by Your blood, rescued us from Satan, and won for us eternal life and salvation in Your resurrection. As You bestow these gifts in Baptism, grant that in life and death we may always cling to our Baptism, trusting in Your promises, and finally be brought into Your heavenly kingdom. Amen [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 296]

# 13

#### **Intercessory Prayer**

- ⊕ Heather Roll (breast cancer)
- Pastor Mark Clements with a blood clot in his brain.
- † For Jerrod Benrud (the son of Heide Fehr's cousin from injuries he sustained falling off a deck.
- ♣ For Karla Reagle (Lee Fehr's daughter) for a healthy pregnancy and

- delivery.
- For Jeffrey William (Heather Roll's brother for the loss Natalie)
- ♣ For Fred Rick with Sciatic Stenosis
- † For the Bartos family grieving the death of an uncle



### Hymn of the Week and Next Sunday's Lessons

438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth: stnz 1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth, The guilt of sinners bearing And, laden with the sins of earth, None else the burden sharing; Goes patient on, grows weak and faint, To slaughter led without complaint, That spotless life to offer, He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mockery, and yet replies, "All this I gladly suffer." stnz 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The Lamb of God, our Savior, Whom God the Father chose to send To gain for us His favor. "Go forth, My Son," the Father said, "And free My children from their dread Of guilt and condemnation. The wrath and stripes are hard to bear, But by Your passion they will share The fruit of Your salvation." stnz 3 "Yes, Father, yes, most willingly I'll bear what You command Me. My will conforms to Your decree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O wondrous Love, what have You done! The Father offers up His Son, Desiring our salvation. O Love, how strong You are to save! You lay the One into the grave Who built the earth's foundation. stnz 4 Lord, when Your glory I shall see And taste Your kingdom's pleasure, Your blood my royal robe shall be, My joy beyond all measure! When I appear before Your throne, Your righteousness shall be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in garments richly wrought, As Your own bride shall we be brought To stand in joy beside You. Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130404864

For April 20, 2025, The Resurrection of Our Lord: Isaiah 65:17-25 "Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth."; Psalm 16 You will not abandon me to the grave, nor let Your holy One see decay; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 "Christ ... the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."; Luke 24:1-12 The women visit the tomb.