

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the Week of Palmarum

April 5 through April 11, 2020

What is baptism? It is not simply plain water, but water placed in the setting of God's Word and commandment and made holy by them. It is nothing else than God's water, not that the water itself is nobler than other water but that God's Word and commandment are added to it. Therefore it is sheer wickedness and devilish blasphemy that now, in order to blaspheme baptism, our new spirits set aside God's Word and ordinance, consider nothing but the water drawn from the well, and then babble, "How can a handful of water help the soul?" Yes, my friend! Who does not know that water is water, if it is considered separately? But how dare you tamper thus with God's ordinance and rip out his most precious jewel, in which God has fastened and enclosed his ordinance and from which he does not wish it to be separated? For the real significance of the water lies in God's Word or commandment and God's name, and this treasure is greater and nobler than heaven and earth. – Large Catechism

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Ten Commandments

Apostles' Creed

The Catechism – The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

Memory Verse

Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." (John 3:5–6)

Daily Readings

Sun., April 5:	Exodus 8:1–32	Hebrews 1:1–14	Psalm 38
Mon., April 6:	Exodus 9:1–28	Hebrews 2:1–18	Psalm 22
Tues., April 7:	Exodus 9:29—10:20	Hebrews 3:1–19	Psalm 43
Wed., April 8:	Exodus 10:21—11:10	Hebrews 4:1–16	Psalm 84
Thur., April 9:	Exodus 12:1–28	Hebrews 5:1–14	Psalm 119:73–80

Fri. April 10: Exodus 12:29–32, 13:1–16 Hebrews 6:1–20 Psalm 34

Sat., April 11: Exodus 13:17—14:9 Hebrews 7:1–22 Psalm 27

PRAYERS

Let us pray. 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.

O Lord, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers:

Our church: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Circuit 7 Vacancies:** Trinity Lutheran Church-Centralia. **Those in Need of Healing:** Randy Zimmermann, Jonathan Siddell, Joe Meyer (nephew of Sheri Nolte), Ryan Rounkles (Brother-in-Law of Marla Corry), Rodney Tate, Baker Firebaugh (great nephew of Opal Jones). **Homebound Members:** Mary Boeker, Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz, Connie Schilling. **Baptismal Birthdays:** 6th Dolores Tyberendt, Angie Langenhorst. 7th Trent Albers. 8th Steve Kleiboeker. Anniversary: 6th Tracy & Jill Schilling. 13th Billie & Karen Yardley, Greg & Linda Reckling. **Local:** Hospitals – Doctors, nurses, and other staff.

Look upon them with eyes of Your mercy; grant them comfort and sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Morning or Evening Prayer (From the Small Catechism)