

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week of The Fourth Sunday of Easter*

April 25<sup>th</sup> through May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

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. Learn by heart the selection from the catechism and memory verse for the week.

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

### **The Ten Commandments**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**The Catechism** – What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

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These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

**Large Catechism:** We go to the sacrament because there we receive a great treasure, through and in which we obtain the forgiveness of sins. Why? Because the words are there, and they impart it to us! For this reason Christ bids me eat and drink, that it may be mine and do me good as a sure pledge and sign—indeed, as the very gift he has provided for me against my sins, death, and all evils. Therefore, it is appropriately called food of the soul, for it nourishes and strengthens the new creature. For in the first instance, we are born anew through baptism. However, there are so many hindrances and attacks of the devil and the world that we often grow weary and faint and at times even stumble. Therefore the Lord’s Supper is given as a daily food and sustenance so that our faith may be refreshed and strengthened and that it may not succumb in the struggle but become stronger and stronger. The devil is a furious enemy; when he sees that we resist him and attack the old creature, and when he cannot rout us by force, he sneaks and skulks about at every turn, trying all kinds of tricks, and does not stop until he has finally worn us out so that we either renounce our faith or lose heart and become indifferent or impatient. For times like these, when our heart feels too sorely pressed, this comfort of the Lord’s Supper is given to bring us new strength and refreshment. – *Large Catechism*

**Memory Verse** – As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes (1 Cor. 11:26).

Daily Readings	Bible Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Sorrow Will Turn to Joy John 16:16-22		Psalm 96
Monday	Samuel Judges Israel 1 Samuel 7:2-17	Colossians 1:19-29	Psalm 97
Tuesday	Israel Demands a King 1 Samuel 8:1-22	Colossians 2:1-10	Psalm 98
Wednesday	Saul Is Chosen to Be King 1 Samuel 9:1-24	Colossians 2:11-17	Psalm 99
Thursday	Saul Is Anointed King 1 Samuel 9:25–10:16	Colossians 2:18-23	Psalm 100
Friday	Saul Is Proclaimed King 1 Samuel 10:17-27	Colossians 3:1-11	Psalm 101
Saturday	St. Philip and St. James, Apostles John 14:1-14	James 1:16-21	Psalm 102

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 Undergoing Cancer Treatment:** Sharon Hanke; Eddie Hermsmeyer, treatment beginning in May. **Those Recovering from Surgery:** Dennis Kleiboeker, Pat Borgelt (Angie Nolte's father). **Those Who Are Sick & Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Barb Mueller, Randy Zimmermann, Rodney Tate. **Homebound Members:** Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz, Connie Schilling. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Marli Kleiboeker, Jeff Tyberendt (4/26), Brock Kleiboeker (4/30), Karson Kleiboeker, Marsha Milano (5/1).

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.

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Morning or Evening Prayer (From the Small Catechism)**

**Hymn of the Week: In Thee Is Gladness (LSB 818)**