

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following the Fourth Sunday in Advent  
(Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>)*

### **CATECHETICAL THEME:**

***God the Son – True Man***

#### **This Week's Catechetical Theme: God the Son – True Man**

The eternal Son of God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, took on flesh and became a man. He did not just appear to be like a man. He was and is a real male human being. This is the focus of this week's devotional material. That the divine Son of God would also be a real human being is undoubtedly a mystery. But it is a mystery which was necessary in order for real life human beings to be saved from their sin. Atonement needed to be made and the blood of animals would not suffice. Only the blood of a man could be offered for the sins of man. And so, for our salvation, the Son of God becomes a man. God bless your time in His Word!

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

#### **The Ten Commandments & The Apostles' Creed**

##### **The Catechism:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Creed

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.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Baptism of Our Lord Matthew 3:13-17		Psalm 134
Monday	Jesus Has Flesh and Bones Luke 24:39-43	Deuteronomy 6:4-9	Psalm 135
Tuesday	Jesus Sympathizes Hebrews 4:14-16	1 Cor. 15:1-28	Psalm 136
Wednesday	The Boy Jesus in the Temple Luke 2:41-52	1 Cor. 15:28-58	Psalm 137
Thursday	Jesus is Called a Man 1 Timothy 2:1-5	1 Cor. 16:1-24	Psalm 138
Friday	Jesus Was Hungry...and Slept...and Wept Matt. 4:2; Mark 4:38; John 11:35	2 Cor. 1:2-2:2	Psalm 139
Saturday	Exodus 33:12-23	Ephesians 5:22-33	Psalm 140

## **Questions to Discuss in the Home**

**Sun:** Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon- Fri:** For each day's reading, answer the following questions: How does the reading reveal the humanity of Jesus? How does the reading reveal the divinity of Jesus? What aspects of the divine and/or human nature is revealed in the reading? Why are these important aspects for Jesus to possess? What in this passage is Good News? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

## **Memory Verse**

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 2:5)

## **In Our Prayers this Week**

**Our Church:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Circuit 7 Vacancies:** Trinity Lutheran Church-Centralia, Trinity Lutheran Church-Hoffman. **For Those Recovering from Surgery/Medical Procedures:** Barb Mueller, Pat Borgelt (father of Angie Nolte). **Those in Need of Healing:** Beth Mayer (Mia Zimmermann's niece). **Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Elbert Brink, Eddie Hermsmeyer, Glenn Knolhoff. **Those Who Are Sick & Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Duane Hoffmann (father of Steve Hoffmann), Rick Tate (brother of Randy Tate), Bob Freund, Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann, Rodney Tate, Connie Schilling. **Homebound Members:** Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz.

## **The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism**

**Hymn of the Week:** To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord (LSB 406)