

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following Sexagesima
(Feb. 20th – Feb. 26th)*

CATECHETICAL THEME:

God the Holy Spirit – Resurrection of the Body

This Week's Catechetical Theme: God the Holy Spirit – Resurrection of the Body

As the Creed concludes, we confess, "(I believe in) the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen." What a glorious teaching this is, and so fundamental to the biblical witness and the Church's historic confession. When Jesus was raised from the dead, he was raised bodily. It was his glorified body which was witnessed by over 500 people, and which is the first of many who themselves will receive glorified risen bodies. This week's devotional material places before us a number of passages which reveal, on the last day, we'll be raised just as Jesus was raised – with our body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses. And we'll live in the New Heavens and New Earth. What a glorious eternal existence it shall be. The Lord bless your time in His holy 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: 3rd Article of the Creed

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.

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Parable of the Sower and the Seed Luke 8:4-15		Psalm 26
Monday	Other Witnesses to the Resurrection Job 19:25-27	1 Peter 4:7-11	Psalm 27
Tuesday	Jesus Appears to His Disciples Luke 24:36-43	1 Peter 4:12-19	Psalm 28
Wednesday	Jesus Appears to His Disciples John 20:19-29	1 Peter 5:1-14	Psalm 29
Thursday	Jesus Raises Lazarus John 11:1-44	2 Peter 1:1-4	Psalm 30

Friday	The Resurrection of the Dead 1 Corinthians 15:12-49	2 Peter 1:5-15	Psalm 31
Saturday	Isaiah 35:3-7	1 Cor. 13:1-13	Psalm 32

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:
 1) Who is raised from the dead in the passage? Is it a bodily resurrection, or just spiritual? How might this instruct us regarding our own future anticipation? How is this good news? What false ideas does this passage correct? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25-26)

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:** Linda Nehrt (Eddie & Verdell Hermsmeyer's niece), Barb Mueller, Pat Borgelt (father of Angie Nolte). **Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Elizabeth Boldt (niece of Susan Kleiboeker), Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann), Elbert Brink, Eddie Hermsmeyer, Glenn Knolhoff. **Those in Need of Healing:** Clare Jones (granddaughter of Mike & Opal Jones). **Those Who Are Sick & Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Kathy Bookstaver (friend of Judy Kleiboeker), Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann, Connie Schilling. **Homebound Members:** Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Jason Brinkmann (2/20), Wayne Brink, Chase Roethemeyer (2/22), Curt Rueter (2/23), Janette Albers (2/24), Tucker Albers (2/25), Dennis Lange (2/26).

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

Hymn of the Week: Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens (LSB 589)