

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Easter
(May 8th–May 14th)*

CATECHETICAL THEME:

The 7th Petition

This Week's Catechetical Theme: The 7th Petition

About the 7th Petition, "But deliver us from evil," Luther writes the following in the Large Catechism: "In the Greek text this petition reads, 'Deliver or preserve us from the evil one,' or 'the hateful one.' It looks like Jesus was speaking about the devil, like He would summarize every petition in one. So the entire substance of all our prayer is directed against our chief enemy. For it is he who hinders among us everything that we pray for: God's name or honor, God's kingdom and will, our daily bread, a cheerful good conscience, and so forth." The 7th Petition, and our deliverance from evil, is the theme of the week's devotional material. God bless your devotion!

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: The 7th Petition

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Your Sorrow Will Turn into Joy John 16:16-22		Psalm 96
Monday	The Lion's Den Daniel 6:1-28	1 Corinthians 15	Psalm 97
Tuesday	Paul, Silas, and the Jailer Acts 16:25-34	1 Corinthians 16	Psalm 98
Wednesday	The Fiery Furnace Daniel 3:8-30	2 Corinthians 1	Psalm 99
Thursday	The LORD Will Keep You Psalm 121:7-8; 2 Thessalonians 3:3	2 Corinthians 2	Psalm 100

Friday	The Promise of the LORD Psalm 91:9-10; 2 Corinthians 12:7-9	2 Corinthians 3	Psalm 101
Saturday	Isaiah 12:1-6	James 1:16-21	Psalm 102

Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon – Fri:** Use the following questions to initiate discussion about each day's reading: 1) In the passage, who is suffering evil? 2) To what is the one suffering evil pointed? 3) Is the one suffering from evil delivered from it? 4) From whom does the deliverance come? 5) Does this passage give us some promise in which we can trust? 6) How does this passage instruct us concerning the 7th Petition, "but deliver us from evil"? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

The LORD will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore. (Psalm 121:7-8)

In Our Prayers this Week

Our Church: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Circuit 7 Vacancies:** Trinity Lutheran Church-Centralia. **For Those Who are Expecting:** Corinne Bradley, Stefanie Jennings, Shaelyn Huels (Caroline & Randy Tate's daughter). **For Those Recovering from Surgery:** Linda Nehrt (Eddie & Verdell Hermsmeyer's niece), Barb Mueller, Pat Borgelt (father of Angie Nolte). **Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Ali Schubel (6th grader at Carlyle), Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann), Elbert Brink. **Those in Need of Healing:** Bonnie Carroll (Calvin & Jackie Yardley's niece), Carolyn Freund, Clare Jones (granddaughter of Mike & Opal Jones). **Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** 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:** Donald Will, Sr. (5/12), Sharon Schneider (5/14). **Anniversaries:** James & Sara Kuper (5/10).

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

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