

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the Thirteenth week after Trinity
(September 11th–September 17th)*

CATECHETICAL THEME:

Sacraments in the OT

This Week's Catechetical Theme: Sacraments in the OT

The people of God who live after the time of Christ have been blessed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, and the Sacrament of the Altar. We have these two signs, which were instituted by Christ, which include visible elements, to which the LORD has attached His promise of forgiveness. But sacramental signs are nothing new. In fact, the people of God who lived in the Old Testament were blessed to receive numerous visible signs, to which the LORD had attached His promises, and by which they could be certain of the LORD's gracious favor. This week's catechesis considers five of them. God bless your time of 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: *From Luther's Lectures on Genesis*

The Augsburg Confession – The Use of the Sacraments

Moreover, this passage also teaches us how God wants always to link His promise with a sign, just as previously, in the third chapter, we called attention to the garments of skins with which He clothed the naked human beings as a sign that He wanted to protect, defend, and preserve them. ...This sign should remind us to give thanks to God. For as often as the rainbow appears, it preaches to the entire world with a loud voice about the wrath which once moved God to destroy the whole world. It also gives comfort that we may have the conviction that God is kindly inclined toward us again and will never again make use of so horrible a punishment. Thus it teaches the fear of God and faith at the same time, the greatest virtues (AE 2, 144 & 148).

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Parable of the Good Samaritan Luke 10:23-37		Psalm 50
Monday	Cain's Mark of Protection Genesis 4:8-16	Jude	Psalm 51
Tuesday	The Passover Exodus 12:1-13	Revelation 1	Psalm 52
Wednesday	The Rainbow Genesis 9:8-17	Revelation 2	Psalm 53

Thursday	The Bronze Serpent Numbers 21:4-9	Revelation 3	Psalm 54
Friday	The Twelve Stones Joshua 4:1-24	Revelation 4	Psalm 55
Saturday	2 Chronicles 28:8-15	Galatians 3:15-22	Psalm 56

Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon-Fri:** 1. In each day's reading, identify the following: A) by whom is the action initiated; B) the visible sign that was given; and C) the promise attached to the sign. 2. What does each day's reading teach us about the LORD's will toward men? 3. How does each sacramental action remind us of the wages of sin? Or the grace of the LORD? **Sat:** In Preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth. (Genesis 9:11)

In Our Prayers this Week

Our Church: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **For Those Who are Expecting:** Shaelyn Huels (Caroline & Randy Tate's daughter). **For Those Who Mourn Over Death:** Family and friends of Opal Jones (9/2) and Melvin Lange (9/4). **For Those Recovering from Surgery:** Norman Kleiboeker, Lynn Michael, Adrienne Childress (mother of David Childress), Linda Nehrt (Eddie & Verdell Hermsmeyer's niece), Barb Mueller, Pat Borgelt (father of Angie Nolte). **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann). **For Those in Need of Healing:** Rodney Tate (father of Randy Tate), Nancy Hutchinson (sister of Jerry Mines), Mike Jones, Roger Zimmermann, Roger & Marilyn Sullens (Linda Reckling's father & mother), Clare Jones (granddaughter of Mike & Opal Jones). **For Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann, Connie Schilling. **Homebound Members:** Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Ruth Onken, Keaton Langenhorst (9/12), Jeff Pigg (9/14), Angie Siddell (9/16). **Anniversaries:** Jeff & Lois Pigg (9/12).

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

Hymn of the Week: The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace (LSB 580)