

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the 18<sup>th</sup> week after Trinity  
(October 16<sup>th</sup>– October 22<sup>nd</sup>)*

### **CATECHETICAL THEME:**

***What Benefits Does Baptism Give?***

#### **This Week's Catechetical Theme: What Benefits Does Baptism Give?**

The Small Catechism answers this week's question quite clearly, identifying three blessings bestowed in Baptism: forgiveness, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal salvation. What great blessings these are, for they are the gifts Christ freely gives. And He gives these gifts wherever He gives His gifts: through the preaching of the Gospel, and also the administration of the Sacraments. This is no man-made list of blessings. This is the list of blessings given in Holy Scripture to all who have salvation by grace through faith in Christ. Where there is forgiveness, there is rescue from death and eternal life! The Small Catechism quotes Mark 16:16, but throughout the week, you will discover additional passages that teach the same. 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:**

*What benefits does baptism give?*

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

*Which are these words and promises of God?*

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

<b>Daily Readings</b>	<b>Catechetical Narrative</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Christ Teaches the Fulfillment of the Old Testament Matthew 22:34-46</b>		<b>Psalm 85</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Be Baptized...Wash Your Sins Away Acts 22:12-16</b>	<b>Genesis 3</b>	<b>Psalm 86</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Repent and Be Baptized Acts 2:36-42</b>	<b>Genesis 4</b>	<b>Psalm 87</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Rescued from Darkness Colossians 1:13-14</b>	<b>Genesis 5</b>	<b>Psalm 88</b>

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Whoever Believes and is Baptized Mark 16:14-16</b>	<b>Genesis 6</b>	<b>Psalm 89</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Baptism Now Saves You 1 Peter 3:18-21</b>	<b>Genesis 7</b>	<b>Psalm 90</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Genesis 28:10-17</b>	<b>Ephesians 4:22-28</b>	<b>Psalm 91</b>

### Questions to Discuss in the Home

**Sun:** Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** What does today's reading indicate happened to Saul/Paul when he was baptized? Whose work was this? **Tues:** In today's passage, what gifts are given in Holy Baptism? Who did the giving? **Wed:** What two promises are attached to Holy Baptism in Acts 2:36-42? What does this teach us is given in Holy Baptism? Who is doing the giving? **Thurs:** In today's passage, what gifts are given in Holy Baptism? Who did the giving? **Fri:** In today's passage, what gifts are given in Holy Baptism? Who did the giving? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

### Memory Verse

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)

### In Our Prayers this Week

**For Those Recovering from Surgery:** Norman Kleiboeker, Lynn Michael, Adrienne Childress (mother of David Childress), Pat Borgelt (father of Angie Nolte). **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Joe Childress (father of David Childress), Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann). **For Those in Need of Healing:** Kathy Bookstaver (friend of Judy Kleiboeker), Rodney Tate (father of Randy Tate), Nancy Hutchinson (sister of Jerry Mines), Roger Zimmermann, Roger & Marilyn Sullens (father & mother of Linda Reckling). **For Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Barb Mueller, Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann, Connie Schilling. **Homebound Members:** Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Earl Schneider, Keith Kleiboeker, Mike Eggerman (10/18), Aftyn Hanks (10/21), Carolyn Freund (10/22). **Anniversaries:** Alan & Debi Edwards (10/16), Tayler & Myranda Albers (10/19), Tristan & Valerie Nolte (10/20), Steve & Karen Maschhoff (10/22).

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

**Hymn of the Week:** Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart (LSB 708)