

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following  
the Fourth Sunday in Lent (Laetare) (March 19<sup>th</sup> – March 25<sup>th</sup>)*

### **CATECHETICAL THEME:**

*What is the Sacrament of the Altar?*

#### **This Week's Catechetical Theme: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?**

Our catechetical focus this week turns our attention to the institution of the Lord's Supper. This Sacrament was not invented or introduced by any man. Instead, it was instituted and established by God Himself. On the night when He was betrayed, Jesus says of the bread, "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." Of the cup, Jesus says, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood..." The same body and blood that was crucified on the cross and died for the sin of the world; the same body and blood that rose; is the same body and blood which He gives to us in this blessed meal. And as God bids us to eat and to drink of it, we do it so that we might receive His gift of forgiveness and life. 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 is the Sacrament of the Altar?*

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

*Where is this written?*

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

<b>Daily Readings</b>	<b>Catechetical Narrative</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand John 6:1-15</b>		<b>Psalm 89</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Devoted to Receiving Acts 2:42-47</b>	<b>Leviticus 9</b>	<b>Psalm 90</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Participation in the Body/Blood 1 Corinthians 10:14-22</b>	<b>Leviticus 10</b>	<b>Psalm 91</b>

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>The Institution of the Supper Matthew 26:17-29</b>	<b>Leviticus 11</b>	<b>Psalm 92</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>The Church's Use 1 Corinthians 11:17-25</b>	<b>Leviticus 12</b>	<b>Psalm 93</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Discerning the Body of Christ 1 Corinthians 11:27-32</b>	<b>Leviticus 13</b>	<b>Psalm 94</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Genesis 22:1-14</b>	<b>Hebrews 9:11-15</b>	<b>Psalm 95</b>

### Questions to Discuss in the Home

**Sun:** Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** To what did the disciples dedicate themselves? Did they receive the Lord's Supper (the breaking bread) infrequently, or did they receive it often? **Tues:** What does Paul teach that we participate in when we eat and drink that which Jesus gives in the Lord's Supper? How are those that receive the supper to understand their relationship? **Wed:** On what night did Jesus institute the Lord's Supper? What does Jesus say that the disciples eat? What does he say that they drink? What is the benefit of this eating and drinking? **Thur:** Were there already divisions in the congregation at Corinth? Why does Paul teach that those divisions are necessary? See verse 23; what is it that Paul had received and now delivers? **Fri:** What happens to those who fail to discern (believe) that the body of Christ is present in the Lord's Supper? How should this influence the Church's administration of the Sacrament? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

### Memory Verse

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take eat; this is my body." (Matt. 26:26)

### In Our Prayers this Week

**For Those Recovering from Surgery:** Lynn Michael. **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Marla Corry, Beth Jones (daughter-in-law of Mike Jones), Joe Childress (father of David Childress), Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann). **For Those in Need of Healing:** Norman Kleiboeker, Alan Kleiboeker, 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. **Baptismal Birthday:** Joan Rueter (3/20), Linda Reckling (3/23). **Anniversaries:** Darrell & Dawn Brink (3/19), Sam & Angie Siddell (3/21).

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

**Hymn of the Week:** Jesus, Priceless Treasure (LSB 743)