

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity
 November 10th through November 16th, 2024

Catechesis Notes for the Week—The Holy Spirit’s Work Is to Testify of Jesus—The Third person of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit, is the Spirit who proceeds from the Father and the Son to give life and salvation to us in Christ. How does He give testimony to Jesus? By the preaching of the Gospel, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution, and the Holy Communion. By the Words of the New Testament in the blood of Christ, the Holy Spirit bears witness to our spirits that Jesus is Christ our Savior that we might believe in Him. By these same gifts He, the Holy Spirit, enlightens our hearts, minds, and lives to live from and in the freedom of Christ’s forgiveness. By these same gifts, the Holy Spirit brings Christ into our hearts and brings forth Christ in our lives in love toward others which is the fruit of faith. The Holy Spirit never shines upon Himself; He is always shining upon Christ. We should think of it this way: it is the Holy Spirit who preaches the Gospel, baptizes, forgives sins, and gives us to eat of Christ’s body and blood. It is the Holy Spirit who does all of these things, that our faith and life might be fixed firmly in Christ. That is the Holy Spirit’s work, as Jesus said, “When the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me” (John 15:26).

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or use as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Theme: “Take Heart, Daughter, Your Faith Has Made You Well”

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 1 Corinthians 15:22

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

Psalm 126 (antiphon: v.1)—Pray the Psalm Daily

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord Jesus, we grieve the unbelief and unfaithfulness that is found throughout Your Church. Restore Your Church in this world that we, brought to the sorrow of contrition and repentance, might rejoice again in Your salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Catechism: The Creed—The Third Article

What is the Third 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.**

Preschool +

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.

First Grade +

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.

Second Grade +

This is most certainly true.

Prayer on the Third Article: *O Holy Spirit, we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord, or come to Him. Call us to faith in Jesus by the Gospel, enlighten us every day with Your gifts of baptism, absolution, and the Lord's Supper; and sanctify and keep us and the whole Christian Church on earth with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. Forgive us our sins every day and give us the blessed hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Readings for the week of Trinity 24

Day	First Reading	Second Reading
Monday	Elisha and the Water from Edom—2 Kings 3:1-27	1 Corinthians 7:1-24
Tuesday	Elisha and the Widow's Oil—2 Kings 4:1-7	1 Corinthians 7:25-40
Wednesday	Elisha Raises the Shunammite's Son—2 Kings 4:8-37	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Thursday	Elisha Feeds His People—2 Kings 4:38-44	1 Corinthians 9:1-27
Friday	Elisha and the Floating Axehead—2 Kings 6:1-7	1 Corinthians 10:1-22
Saturday	Sunday's OT and Epistle—Job 14:1-6	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Prayers: Collects for the Week; Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity:

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of Your faithful people that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by You be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; your calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for government; and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; and those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family; living together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; those adults who must rear their children alone; and godly schools, especially Peace Lutheran Preschool, our church schools, and seminaries.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the church and her pastors; for missionaries; fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; its spread throughout the whole world and our community; the persecuted*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; the dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day*

In Our Prayers this Week (See Bulletin)

Lord's Prayer and Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week

How Can I Thank You, Lord (st. 1-2)

LSB #703

Looking forward to the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity

November 17th 2024

Hymns: 797, 658, 620, 636, 729, 574, 619, 637, 461

Exodus 32:1–20; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18; Matthew 24:15–28

“The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed” (Luke 17:20). You must use your ears and not your eyes. For God's kingdom in this world is one of faith, and faith comes by hearing the Word of Christ. The people of Israel, however, wanted to walk not by faith but by sight. When Moses delayed in coming down the mountain, they decided to make a visible god for themselves, the golden calf (Ex. 32:1). Upon such faithless and false worshipers God's judgment comes. Only on the Last Day will our faith be turned to sight. *“For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man”* (Matt. 24:27). The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, and He will gather His people to Himself, both the living and the dead. In a world in which our days are few and full of trouble (Job 14:1), let us comfort one another with these words of the resurrection and the coming of our Lord Jesus.