

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Trinity
November 26 through December 3, 2006*

Catechesis Notes for the Week—Food for the Soul—[The Lord's Supper] is appropriately called the food of the soul since it nourishes and strengthens the new man. While it is true that through Baptism we are first born anew, our human flesh and blood have not lost their old skin. there are so many hindrances and temptations of the devil and the world that we often grow weary and faint, at times even stumble. The Lord's Supper is given as a daily food and sustenance so that our faith may refresh and strengthen itself and not weaken in the struggle but grow continually stronger... For such times, when our heart feels too sorely pressed, this comfort of the Lord's Supper is given to bring us new strength and refreshment... (The Large Catechism, Tappert Edition, p. 449, paragraphs 23-24, 27).

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 as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Theme: The Bridegroom Is Coming to Receive His Bride.

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: John 6:54

Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has e- / ternal life,*
and I will raise him up at the / last day.

Psalm 45 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayers on the Psalm: Lord Jesus, our King and Savior, make us faithful citizens of Your kingdom. Guide and govern us, so that, as Your loyal subjects, we may serve You in true faith and a good conscience all the days of our life. Adorn our souls with Your righteousness, that white robe in which we shall be found pleasing to our Father and worthy to dwell with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	103	5	42	89:1-18	97	51	104	19
Evening	117, 139	84, 29	102, 133	1, 33	16, 62	142, 65	118, 111	81, 113

The Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar—Where is this written? What is the benefit...? How can bodily eating...?

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."	Second Grade + Kindergarten +
What is the benefit of this eating and drinking? These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.	First Grade +
How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things? Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."	Second Grade +

Readings for the Week of the Twenty-seventh Sunday after Trinity

Day	First Reading—Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Second Reading
Monday	Jehu, the Avenger of Blood—2 Kings 9:1-37	2 Peter 3:1-18
Tuesday	The Destruction of Ahab's House and the Prophets of Baal—2 Kings 10:1-36	Jude 1-25
Wednesday	Athaliah and Joash—2 Kings 11:1-21	1 John 2:18-29
Thursday	Joash Repairs the Temple—2 Kings 12:1-16	1 John 3:1-12
Friday	The Death of Elisha—2 Kings 13:10-25	1 John 3:19-24
Saturday	Look ahead to Sunday	1 John 4:1-8

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

Collect for the Week of the Twenty-seventh Sunday after Trinity:

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, that He may lead home His bride, the Church, that we with all the redeemed may enter into Your eternal kingdom; 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 Academy, 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

- Shirley Marlow, recuperating from shoulder surgery.*
- Tom DeRidder, suffering with lung cancer, Tom Kennedy, recuperating from a stroke.*
- Ann Pagac, mother of Joanne LaSage, in hospice care.*

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

Hymn of Week

"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"

336 (St. 1)

Look forward to the First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 2006

Hymns: 673, 516, 672, 675

Jeremiah 23:5-8: *Jesus is the "Branch of righteousness" which descended from the House of Judah and the House of David. This prophecy foretells Christ's birth and proclaims Him "The Lord our Righteousness!" This name captures the very heart of the Christian faith: Jesus Christ, the Lord, is my righteousness and my salvation!*

Romans 13:8-14: *The Word of God wakes us up from the slumber of unbelief, or from preoccupation with the cares of this world. That's why we preach the Word, study the Word, memorize the Word, meditate upon the Word. Without God's Word in our ears, on our lips, and in our hearts we will slumber away our hope for salvation and we will not be prepared for our Lord's coming. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light which comes through God's Word, and let us make no provision for the flesh. He who receives God's Word receives Christ and is clothed in Him.*

Matthew 21:1-9: *"Hosanna to the Son of David!" is the theme of our Advent prayers. "Hosanna" means, "Lord, save us now!" It is the cry of a helpless people who long for deliverance from this valley of sorrow. Christians can't wait for their Lord's return. We look forward to deliverance from the struggle with our own sin. We want to be freed from the Curse of the Fall which has a tight grip on the creation and brings with it all kinds of suffering. But most of all, we can't wait to be in the eternal presence of our King, the Son of David, and the Lord over our sin, death, and the devil's power. Freedom and deliverance come from the Lord Jesus. He is the object of our worship and the source of our Advent Joy. "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"*