

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Tenth Sunday after Trinity
August 12 through August 19, 2007*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Living in Repentance—The Baptismal Life—What is the "baptismal life"? According to the catechism Baptism has daily significance in the life of every Christian. It defines who we are: Sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. But it also teaches us that we have the Old Adam, our sinful flesh, constantly about us who is an enemy of this faith. The Old Adam must be drowned and die. The New Man, Christ Himself, must rise up in us. This happens through the ministry of the Word, the preaching of repentance and the forgiveness of sins. The Old Adam is killed each time we hear the Law and say "Amen" to it: this is the sinner I am. The New Man arises in us each time we, as broken and contrite sinners, hear the Word of Absolution. When we hear that our sins are forgiven we are taken back to the central truth of our Baptism. This truth is not merely repeated, as a bit of information, it is the power of God in our lives each day. This is what it means to live in our baptism daily.

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 Lord Visits Us in the Call to Repentance and Faith.

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: Romans 10:4

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Psalm 92 and/or the appointed daily psalms for listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	40	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56	59	60, 61
Evening	39, 41	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55	57, 58	62

The Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism—How can water do such great things?

Holy Baptism forgives sins, rescues from death and the devil and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this as the words and promises of God declare

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water,
but the word of God in and with the water does these things,
along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water.
For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism.
But with the word of God it is a Baptism,
that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit,
as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

**so that, having been justified by His grace,
we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.**

This is a trustworthy saying. [Titus 3:5-8]

Third Grade +

Kindergarten +

First Grade +

Second Grade +

Readings for the Week of Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem—Luke 19:41-48	1 Sam. 28:3-25	1 Cor. 6:1-20
Monday	Paul's Third Missionary Journey—Acts 18:23—19:10	1 Sam. 31:1-13	1 Cor. 7:1-24
Tuesday	The Miracles Worked by Paul—Acts 19:11-20	2 Sam. 1:1-27	1 Cor. 7:25-40
Wednesday	The Riot at Ephesus—Acts 19:21-41	2 Sam. 5:1-25	1 Cor. 8:1-13
Thursday	Eutychus Falls from a Window at Troas—Acts 20:1-16	2 Sam. 6:1-19	1 Cor. 9:1-23
Friday	Paul's Farewell to the Ephesian Elders—Acts 20:17-38	2 Sam. 7:1-17	1 Cor. 9:24—10:22
Saturday	Paul Returns to Jerusalem—Acts 21:1-17	2 Sam. 7:18-29	1 Cor. 10:23—11:16
Sunday	Sunday readings	2 Sam. 11:1-27	1 Cor. 11:17-34

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

Collect for the Tenth Sunday after Trinity:

O God, You declare Your almighty power above all in showing mercy and pity. Mercifully grant us such a measure of Your grace that we may obtain Your gracious promises and be made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; 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; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

In Our Prayers this Week

The impenitent, those who have forsaken the faith, and those Christians who are estranged from one another
 Mike Clark, recuperating from hip surgery; Robin Gabel, recuperating from wrist surgery
 Gary Schmidt, son of Chris and Florence, suffering with hypoplastic anemia
 Those suffering with cancer: John LaSage, brother of Steve LaSage;
 Donna Ziegler, sister of Virjean Schmidt; Bill Kallio, good friend of Judy Jones.
 Helping Hands, a Lutheran ministry to the Bulgarians.

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

Hymn of Week

"The Church's One Foundation"

644

Look forward to the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

August 19, 2007

Hymns: 572, Psalm 50:7-32 (antiphon v. 14) 559, 570, 567

Genesis 4:1-15: *Cain's offering was rejected because the faith of his heart was wrong. He trusted in himself and believed the Lord owed him because of his goodness. Abel's offering was accepted because the faith of his heart was in the mercy of God.*

Ephesians 2:1-10: *This classic passage on salvation by grace alone teaches that man is spiritually dead in trespasses and sins apart from the operation of the Holy Spirit and that even faith in Christ itself is a gift of God's grace.*

Luke 18:9-14: *"The Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering" (Gen 4:1-15). For unlike Abel, Cain's offering did not proceed from a heart that revered and trusted in the Lord. Thus, the lowly tax collector who prayed, "God be merciful to me, sinner!" was the one who went down to his house justified before God, not the respectable, outwardly righteous Pharisee who trusted in himself and his own good living (Luke 18:9-14). "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast" (Eph 2:1-10). The one who penitently despairs of his own righteousness and relies completely on the atoning mercy of God in Christ is the one who is declared righteous. For Christ died for our sins and rose again the third day (1 Cor 15:1-10). Therefore, "everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (LSB hymnal notes)*