

**The Congregation at Prayer**  
***A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following***  
***Misericordias Domini – April 18, 2021***  
*Simple orders can be found on pages 294-298 in LSB or you may use the following order*

***Invocation***

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

***Psalm***

Psalm 147:1-11

***Verse of the Month***

I Corinthians 15:20: "But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."

***10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed***

***Hymn of the Week***

With High Delight Let Us Unite (LSB 483)

***Reading from Holy Scripture***

*Members may choose...*

- *Read the Bible in a year (church website) or children's The Story Bible (CPH)*
- *Readings appointed from the Daily Lectionary (LSB p. 299-304)*

***Looking forward to Jubilate (Easter IV)***

Monday: Isaiah 40:25-31

Tuesday: I Peter 2:11-20

Wednesday: John 16:16-22

Thursday: The people of God are pilgrims and sojourners in this world, looking ahead to a destination yet to come. (1 Peter 2:11-20) Though we are now children of God, the fullness of what we shall be has not yet been revealed. (1 Jn 3:1-3) We are those who wait on the Lord. "The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him." (Lam 3:22-33) Jesus tells us that the wait is just a little while. "A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father." (Jn 16:16-22) Though you must experience sorrow for a time, though you must live as strangers in a world that is at enmity with Christ, yet your sorrow will be turned to joy when He returns. "Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength." (Is 40:25-31) The little while of weeping shall be replaced with an eternity of rejoicing in the presence of Christ the crucified and risen Savior. "And your joy no one will take from you."

***Catechism for the Week: Table of Duties***

*What does God's Word say to bishops, pastors, and preachers?* The overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. (I Timothy 3:2-4) He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. (I Timothy 3:6) He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. (Titus 1:9)

***Prayers:***

***Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)***

Lord God, heavenly Father, who in Your fatherly goodness are pleased to chasten Your children on earth with the rod of discipline, that we may be conformed to the likeness of Your only-begotten Son in both present suffering and future glory: we beseech You to comfort us with Your Holy Spirit in tribulation and cross, that we may not despair but cling firmly to this comfort, according to the promise of Your Son that our suffering will be but little, and then shall follow eternal joy, that by such hope we may patiently overcome all misfortune and through Jesus Christ obtain salvation. Amen.

***In Our Prayers This Week:***

Linda Winkelman, Jean Luerssen, Bill Heck, Kathy Foat, Bill Lindbloom, Kathy Hansen, Arnie Oelkers

***Lord's Prayer***

***Morning Prayer***

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

***Evening Prayer***

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that you would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

***Mealttime Prayer***

The eyes of all look to You, O Lord, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Thy gifts which we receive from Thy bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Closing***

Let us bless the Lord: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Hymn of the Month***

Christ Is Arisen (LSB 459/TLH 187)

***Reading from the Book of Concord***

Portions of the Smalcald Articles p. 262-272

From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)

***Hymns***

487-488-483-594/708/618/619-518