

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Sexagesima – February 12, 2023

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 89:18-29

Verse of the Month

Joel 2:12-13 'Now, therefore,' says the LORD, 'Turn to Me with all your heart, With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.' So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.'

10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Week

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus (LSB 685/TLH 409)

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 Quinquagesima

Monday: I Samuel 16:1-13

Tuesday: I Corinthians 13:1-13

Wednesday: Luke 18:31-43

Thursday: The seeing are blind, while the one who is blind can see. (Lk 18:31-43) Jesus tells the twelve that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer and die and rise again. But they cannot understand or grasp what He is saying. The meaning of His words is hidden from their sight. However, as Jesus makes His way up to Jerusalem, a blind man calls out to Him for mercy. This blind man sees that Jesus is the Messiah-Savior; for he calls Him "Son of David." Indeed, Jesus is the Lord's anointed, the keeper of sheep (I Samuel 16:1-13) who goes to lay down His life for the sheep. He is the incarnate love of the Father who suffers long and is kind, who is not puffed up, who never fails us. (1 Cor 13:1-13) Jesus opens the eyes of the blind (Is 35:3-7) to see Him not according to outward appearances of lowliness, but according to His heart of mercy and compassion. Those who behold Him thus by faith follow Him to the cross through death into life.

Catechism for the Week: Confession

What is the Office of the Keys? The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

Where is this written? This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven. [John 20:22-23]

Prayers:

Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

Lord God, heavenly Father, who by Your Son, Jesus Christ, mercifully opened the eyes of the blind man and granted Him to see the light: we poor sinners beseech You to enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Word, that through Christ, Your Son, who died on the cross for us and made atonement for our sins, we may rightly learn to know Your gracious help and mercy and in all troubles and trials look only to that, seeking it by faithful prayer, and so find comfort and deliverance from the devil, sin, and death, and obtain salvation. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Linda Winkelman, Jean Luerssen, Bill Heck, Lisa Salo, Pat Jung, Todd Morawetz

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.

Mealtime 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

Commit whatever Grieves Thee (TLH 520/LSB 754)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession p. 174-185
From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)