

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Quasimodo Geniti – April 16th, 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 23

Verse of the Month

Mark 16:6 “And he saith unto them, ‘Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: He is risen: He is not here: behold the place where they laid Him.’”

10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed

Hymn of the Week

The King of Love My Shepherd Is (LSB 709/TLH 431)

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 Misericordias Domini (Easter III)

Monday: Ezekiel 34:11-16

Tuesday: I Peter 2:21b-25

Wednesday: John 10:11-16

Thursday: Our Lord Jesus is the Good Shepherd. (Jn 10:11-16) He is not like the hireling, who cares nothing for the sheep and only for himself, who flees when he sees the wolf coming. Rather, Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks out His scattered sheep to deliver them. (Ezek 34:11-16). He gathers them and feeds them in rich pasture. He binds up the broken and strengthens the sick. He lays down His life for wandering and wayward sheep. On the cross Christ bore in His body the attacks of the predators of sin and death and the devil for you that you might be saved. He now lives to restore your souls in the still waters of baptism, to lead you in the paths of righteousness by the voice of His Gospel, to prepare the table of His holy supper before you, that you may dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (Psalm 23) "For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (1 Peter 2:21b-25)

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 have tenderly remembered us miserable men and have set Your Son over us as our keeper, not only to feed us with Your Word but also by His protection to deliver and preserve us from sin, death, and the devil: we beseech You to grant by Your Holy Spirit that, just as this Shepherd knows us and has assumed our troubles as His own, so in all our pressing concerns, we may also cling to Him, seek and expect help and comfort from Him, heartily follow His voice, and so through Him obtain eternal salvation. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Linda Winkelman, Jean Luerssen, Lisa Salo, Todd Morawetz, Betty Beierle

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

Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands (LSB 458/TLH 195)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of the Smalcald Articles p. 262-272

From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)