

The Congregation at Prayer

New Hope Lutheran Church, Ossian, Indiana

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the week of the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Beginning March 14, 2021

*Theme: "The Lord Feeds His People"**

(Congregation speaks non-italic boldface text)

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

Verse: 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a (ESV): "Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends."

Psalm: 109:21-31

The Catechism: The Table of Duties---What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors**

<p>What is 1 Corinthians 9:14?</p> <p>The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.</p>	<p><i>First Grade +</i></p>
<p>What is Galatians 6:6-7</p> <p>Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.</p>	<p><i>Second Grade +</i></p>
<p>What is 1 Timothy 5:17-18?</p> <p>The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages."</p>	<p><i>Third Grade +</i></p>

Readings for the week of Lent 4

Day	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Lent 4 — The Feeding of the 5,000—John 6:1-15	
Monday	Jesus Faces the Sanhedrin—Mark 14:53-72	<i>Psalm 35:17-28</i>
Tuesday	Jesus Faces Pontius Pilate—Mark 15:1-15	<i>Isaiah 50:4-10</i>
Wednesday	Herod Antipas Murders John the Baptist—Mark 6:14-29	<i>Romans 12:9-21</i>
Thursday	The King of the Jews Is Mocked—Mark 15:16-32	<i>Psalm 69:16-30</i>
Friday	Jesus' Death and Burial—Mark 15:33-47	<i>Psalm 22</i>
Saturday	St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus—Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23	

Prayers: Collect for Lent 3: “Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**”***

Table of Duties: Heavenly Father, You call sinful men into the Office of the Holy Ministry to faithfully proclaim Your Word and administer the Sacraments. Grant that Your people may provide for these ministers so that those who preach the Gospel may receive their living from the Gospel. May these ministers hold firmly to the pure Gospel so that they may encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen.**

In our prayers this week:

For an increase in faith and love among believers.

That the unrepentant would confess their sin, believe in Christ for forgiveness, and be united to Christ through baptism in His holy body, the Church.

Consider praying the Litany on page 288 of Lutheran Service Book.

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

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.**

The Hymn of the Week: “Jesus, Priceless Treasure” LSB 743

Looking forward to the Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica)	March 21, 2021
Readings: Genesis 22:1–14 Hebrews 9:11–15 John 8:(42–45) 46–59	
Theme: “Jesus Is Our Redemption”*	
Lectionary Summary: “In the temple Jesus said, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never see death’ (John 8:51). For Jesus came to taste death for us—to drink the cup of suffering to the dregs in order that we might be released from its power. Clinging to His life-giving words, we are delivered from death’s sting and its eternal judgment. Christ is our High Priest, who entered the Most Holy Place and with His own blood obtained everlasting redemption for His people (Heb. 9:11–15). He is the One who was before Abraham was, and yet is his descendant. He is the promised Son who carries the wood up the mountain for the sacrifice, who is bound and laid upon the altar of the cross. He is the ram who is offered in our place, who is willingly caught in the thicket of our sin, and who wears the crown of thorns upon His head (Gen. 22:1–14). Though Jesus is dishonored by the sons of the devil, He is vindicated by the Father through the cross.”*	

“The Congregation at Prayer” has been adapted from the model provided by Peter Bender, *Lutheran Catechesis: Catechist Edition: A Comprehensive Guide to Catechesis for a Lutheran Congregation* 2nd Edition (Sussex, WI: Concordia Catechetical Academy, 2011), 21-22 and the September 1, 2019 version at peacesussex.org/downloads (accessed 9/17/2019) as well as Peter Bender’s Master Schedule for 2020-2021 academic year found at www.lutherancatechesis.org/resource/ (last accessed 02/18/2021).

*Themes and lectionary summary provided by www.lcms.org/worship/lectionary-summaries.

**Catechism format adapted from the Lutheran Catechesis Learn-By-Heart Edition of Luther’s Small Catechism (Sussex, WI: Concordia Catechetical Academy, 1998). Translation of Luther’s Small Catechism: *Luther’s Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. Used with permission. www.cph.org.

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