

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer beginning Sunday, March 22 (*Lent 4/Laetare*)

Pray and confess aloud 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.

Invocation

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

Psalm of the Week: 74

Verse: Luke 10:2

The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

Catechism: Commandments 1-3 (primary texts); Table of Duties— What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:17

As the head of the family should teach them in a simple way to his household

1. You shall have no other gods.	Pre+
2. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.	Pre+
3. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.	Pre+
Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. - 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13	2nd+
Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. - Hebrews 13:17	3rd+

Daily Readings

	Bible Narrative	2 nd Reading
Sun	Lent 4: The Feeding of the 5,000—John 6:1-15	
Mon	Jesus Is Anointed at Bethany—John 12:1-11	Deuteronomy 15:7-11
Tue	Palm Sunday—John 12:12-26	Psalm 118:1-20
Wed	Midweek Passion: Jesus Before Pontius Pilate —Matt. 27:11-31	Isaiah 50:4-9
Thu	The Annunciation of Our Lord: Luke 1:26-38	
Fri	Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet—John 13:1-20	Exodus 40:1-33
Sat	A New Commandment Is Given—John 13:21-38	Psalm 41

Devotional Reading (Portals of Prayer, Higher Things Daily Devotion)

Hymn: LSB 571 "God Loved the World So That He Gave" (stanzas 1 and 4)

Apostles' Creed

Collect for Laetare

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.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday: *For the joy of the Resurrection; for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday: *For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for vocations and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for our schools, our home schools, our colleges and seminaries; for good government and peace.*
- Tuesday: *For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.*
- Wednesday: *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 rear their children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday: *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other servants of Christ and His Church; for the fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.*
- Friday: *For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for its spread throughout the whole world; for the persecuted; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday: *For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for pastors as they prepare to administer Christ's holy gifts; for receptive hearts and minds on the Lord's Day.*

In Our Prayers at St. John— *See the Sunday Service Folder & Prayer Chain*

Lord's Prayer

Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

The Fifth Sunday in Lent (Sunday, 03/29, 9:30am)

Readings: Genesis 22:1–14; Psalm 43; Hebrews 9:11–15; John 8:46–59

Hymns: 755 In the Very Midst of Life; 430 My Song Is Love Unknown; 624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born; 431 Not All the Blood of Beasts; 437 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed; 547 The Lamb; 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On

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