

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Resurrection of Our Lord
 April 20th through April 26th, 2025

Catechesis Notes for the Week—Holy Baptism Unites Us with the Death and Resurrection of Christ—It is by virtue of our Baptism that we are united with Jesus’ death and resurrection. This means that every blessing of His death and resurrection becomes ours in Holy Baptism. Death and the law have no more claim on us because we died with Christ. Resurrection and eternal life are ours because we have been raised with Christ. As St. Paul wrote, “Do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with...” (Romans 6:3-6)

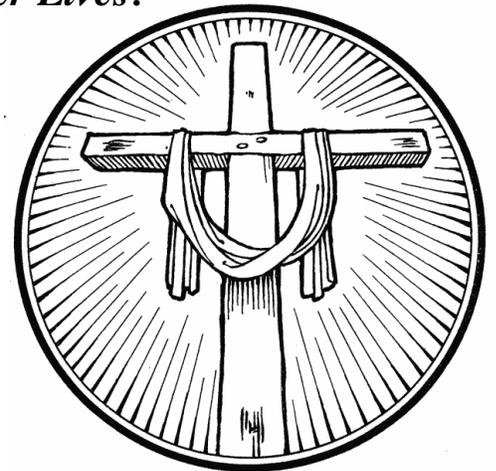
The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or use as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Theme: I Know that My Redeemer Lives!

Invocation

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



Apostles’ Creed

Verse: 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive

Psalm 118:15-29 (antiphon v. 1)—Pray the Psalm Daily

Prayer on the Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord, O my soul. Worship Him and trust His mercy and truth; for they are as great as He Himself is, and they endure forever. Let the Lord be Your meditation and Your song in the house of Your pilgrimage, because He has given You strength, and has set before You the hope of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Catechism: The Creed—The Second Article

What is the Second Article of the Creed?

And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord...

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ,
 true God, begotten of the Father from eternity,
 and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary,
 is my Lord,
 who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,
 purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil;
 not with gold or silver,
 but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,
 that I may be His own
 and live under Him in His kingdom
 and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,
 just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.
 This is most certainly true.

Preschool +

First Grade +

Second Grade +

Prayer on the Second Article: Heavenly Father, You have given us Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary to redeem us from sin, death, and the power of the devil. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, taking all of the punishment that we deserved for our sin upon Himself. He descended into hell, proclaiming His victory over the devil; and on the third day He rose again from the dead, preaching the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life in His name to the whole world. We give thanks to You for all that Your Son has done for us. Help us to know and believe in Jesus. He has now ascended into heaven and sits at Your right hand as our Savior and Lord. All the enemies of sin, death, and hell have been placed under His feet and He now rules over all things for the sake of His Church. Give us fervent faith in Jesus and the blessed hope that He will come again to judge the living and the dead, giving the gift of eternal salvation to all who believe in Him; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings for the week of The Resurrection of Our Lord

Day	First Reading	Second Reading
Monday	Easter Monday: The Emmaus' Disciples—Luke 24:13-35	1 Peter 1:17-25
Tuesday	Easter Tuesday: The Breaking of the Bread—Luke 24:36-49	Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Wednesday	Easter Wednesday: The Resurrection Catch—John 21:1-14	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
Thursday	Jesus Reinstates Peter—John 21:15-25	Colossians 3:1-7
Friday	St. Mark, Evangelist —Mark 16:14-20	2 Timothy 4:5-18
Saturday	Look Ahead to Sunday's Lessons	1 John 5:4-10

Prayers: Collects for the Week; Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the Resurrection of Our Lord:

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Easter Monday:

O God, in the paschal feast You restore all creation. Continue to send Your heavenly gifts upon Your people that they may walk in perfect freedom and receive eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Easter Tuesday:

Almighty God, through the resurrection of Your Son You have secured peace for our troubled consciences. Grant us this peace evermore that trusting in the merit of Your Son we may come at last to the perfect peace of heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Easter Wednesday:

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Grant that we who have been raised with Him may abide in His presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for St. Mark—Evangelist: (Friday)

Almighty God, You have enriched Your Church with the proclamation of the Gospel through the evangelist Mark. Grant that we may firmly believe these glad tidings and daily walk according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

In Our Prayers this Week (See Bulletin)

Lord's Prayer and Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" (st.1-4) **LSB #457**

Looking forward to the Week of Quasimodo Geniti (the Second Sunday of Easter) **April 27th 2025**

Hymns: 480, 470, 484, 642, 631, 618, 563, 466, 832

Ezekiel 37:1-14: The prophet Ezekiel describes the resurrection of the body to which we all look forward. He describes the scene that is not unlike creation when the breath of God, His Holy Spirit, was breathed into the dust of man by the Word of the Father so that Adam became a living being. The Holy Spirit is called the Lord and giver of life because He gives us the new life in Christ by the Word of peace between God and man that the Gospel proclaims.

1 John 5:4-10: Faith is the victory that overcomes the world. Christian faith has Christ Jesus, the Savior of sinners, as its content. If Christ is not the content of faith, then faith has no value and cannot save. If Christ is the content of faith, then faith conquers all sin, death, temptation, and fear of judgment. This is why the Apostle John directs us to the Spirit, the water, and the blood. By the Word and Sacraments, faith is bestowed and strengthened, which is another way of saying, by the Word and Sacraments, Christ is given to us. If we have Him, then we have all things.

John 20:19-31: "Peace be with you" were the first words out of Jesus' mouth when He greeted the disciples for the first time after His resurrection. These are important Words. They bestow forgiveness of sins to penitent sinners and they create faith where there is unbelief and a bad conscience. These words were coupled with the flesh and bone appearance of Jesus to the Twelve who were called to be eyewitnesses of His resurrection. Now they, who themselves had been comforted and strengthened in the faith, would proclaim this same Word of peace to others. Jesus gave them an important promise for us: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." This guarantees to us that, although we still look forward to seeing and touching Jesus in His body, we, nevertheless, have the full benefits of His peace.