

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the week of Quinquagesima (within 50 days of Easter)

February 15th through February 21st, 2026

Catechesis Notes for the Week—Food for the Soul—[The Lord’s Supper] is appropriately called the food of the soul since it nourishes and strengthens the new man. While it is true that through Baptism we are first born anew, our human flesh and blood have not lost their old skin. There are so many hindrances and temptations of the devil and the world that we often grow weary and faint, at times even stumble. The Lord’s Supper is given as a daily food and sustenance so that our faith may refresh and strengthen itself and not weaken in the struggle but grow continually stronger...For such times, when our heart feels too sorely pressed, this comfort of the Lord’s Supper is given to bring us new strength and refreshment... (The Large Catechism, Tappert Edition, p. 449, paragraphs 23-24, 27).

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: Son of David, Have Mercy on Us.

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Acts 2:41a, 42

Those who gladly received his word were baptized...
And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Psalm 89:18-29 (antiphon: v. 20)—Pray the Psalm Daily

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your mercy is everlasting and is the source of our life and our joy. Grant us Your grace to confess our sins and to hold fast to Your righteousness and mercy all the days of our lives, for You have established eternal salvation for us through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



The Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar—What is the Sacrament of the Altar? Where is this written?

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| <p><i>What is the Sacrament of the Altar?</i> It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.</p> | First Grade + |
| <p><i>Where is this written?</i> The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”</p> | Second Grade + |
| <p>“Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”</p> | Kindergarten + |

Prayer before Receiving the Lord's Supper: O Lord Jesus, we give thanks to You that on the night You were betrayed You instituted the Lord's Supper from the Old Testament Passover and showed Yourself to be the true Passover Lamb. You redeemed us from slavery to sin, death, and the power of the devil through Your body and blood that was given and shed for our forgiveness upon the cross. Prepare us faithfully to eat and to drink of Your body and blood in the Lord's Supper, that we might receive every blessing of salvation that You won for us in Your suffering and death upon the cross. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of the Altar: Lord Jesus Christ, by Your own words You have instituted the Lord's Supper, teaching us to believe that it is Your true body and blood, under the bread and wine, for us Christians to eat and to drink. We give thanks to You for this precious gift. Give us true faith in Your words that we might receive Your body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation as You have promised. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Readings for the week of Quinquagesima

| Day | First Reading | Second Reading |
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| Monday | The Lord Goes with Moses to Egypt—Exodus 4:1-31 | John 9:1-12 |
| Tuesday | Moses Goes to Pharaoh—Exodus 5:1-23 | John 9:13-23 |
| Wednesday | Ash Wednesday: Joel 2:12-19 | Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 |
| Thursday | The Lord Promises Deliverance—Exodus 6:1-13 | John 9:24-34 |
| Friday | The Lord Gives Signs—Exodus 6:28—7:25 | John 9:35-41 |
| Saturday | Invocabit: Genesis 3:1-21 | 2 Corinthians 6:1-10 |

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

Collect for Quinquagesima:

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; 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 Ash Wednesday:

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word (st. 1-2)* **LSB #904**

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| Looking forward to the Week of Invocabit (The First Sunday in Lent) | February 22nd, 2026 |
| Hymns: 424, 656, 562, 561, 600, 544, 845, 773, 418 | |
| Genesis 3:1-21: In this first temptation, and first sin, we see the importance of God's Word. God's Word was spoken to Adam when God gave him freedom to enjoy all that was in the Garden of Eden. To eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil was not good for it was not given them by God. Man fell into sin when he turned away from that Word that gave Him life. | |
| 2 Corinthians 6:1-10: this lesson might be entitled, "The Christian's Walk." It shows the enemy and the enmity against us, constantly seeking our overthrow. But it heartens with the high and holy encouragement that we are workers with Him. It exhorts and implores us not to receive the grace of God in vain, but to persevere and patiently bear all in Him who defends and delivers in every temptation those who are His own.—adapted from Lindemann, <i>The Sermon and the Propers</i> . vol. 2, p. 56 | |
| Matthew 4:1-11: Man fell into sin when he turned away from that Word that gave Him life. The season of Lent is a time to return to our Baptism in which our "Old Adam" is drowned in repentance and the "New Man" is made alive through the Word of our Savior. Jesus used God's Word to defeat Satan's attacks. God's Word is our defense too. We especially need to rely on God's promises of forgiveness through Christ. Jesus' ministry began with His temptation in the wilderness, not simply to give us an example of how we can overcome temptations, nor to show Jesus as our coach, who says, "See, I did it, so can you!" Rather, it is to show Jesus as the faithful Man for us, our Savior, who says, "See, I did it for you!" This is why He is our faithful high priest from whom we can receive grace to help us in every time of need. | |