



**For your life in Christ the Week of
the Third Sunday of Easter
(Misericordias Domini)
April 20-26, 2026**

How to use this resource: Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able or as your family size and ages dictate. You will need your Bible, a Catechism, and an LSB Hymnal. Other resources named within may enrich your meditation.

Begin

Invocation

*The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.
In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

Hymn of the Week

LSB #478 “The Day of Resurrection” (vv. 1-3)

Recite

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 of the Week: 1 Peter 2:25

“For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.” (ESV)

The Family Altar

**A Guide for Daily Meditation and
Prayer in the Christian Home**

Meditate

Psalm: 60-Day Psalm Schedule

	<i>Mon.</i>	<i>Tues.</i>	<i>Wed.</i>	<i>Thurs.</i>	<i>Fri.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Sun.</i>
Morning	40	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56	59
Evening	39, 41	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55	57, 58

Daily Bible Stories

<i>Day</i>	Week 34: New Testament Stories
Monday	Love Your Enemies - Luke 6:27-38
Tuesday	A Disciple and His Teacher - Luke 6:39-49
Wednesday	Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant - Luke 7:1-10
Thursday	Jesus Raises a Widow's Son - Luke 7:11-17
Friday	John the Baptist Sends Disciples to Jesus - Luke 7:18-35
Saturday	Look Ahead to Sunday's Readings (see last page)
Sunday	Attend Divine Service

Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday	Ex 33:1-23, Luke 7:1-17
Tuesday	Ex 34:1-28, Luke 7:18-35
Wednesday	Ex 34:29-35:21, Luke 7:36-50 <i>Ex 35:22-38:20</i>
Thursday	Ex 38:21-39:8, 22-23, 27-31, Luke 8:1-21
Friday	Ex 39:32-40:16, Luke 8:22-39
Saturday	Ex 40:17-38, Luke 8:40-56 <i>Lev 1:1-7:38</i>
4th Sunday of Easter	Lev 8:1-13, 30-36, Luke 9:1-17

Study

The Catechism

Participants may choose to study the catechism at their own pace or follow along with the selected portion of the catechism for the week.

The Lord's Prayer - 5th and 6th Petitions

See p. 12 of the Learn by Heart Catechism

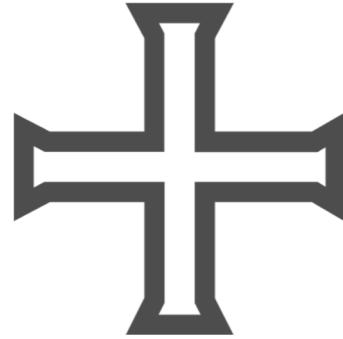
Catechism In-Depth

1991 Catechism: Questions #223-230

2017 Catechism: Questions #276-284

Catechism Bible Story

The Temptation of Jesus - Matthew 4:1-11



Pray

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

Collect for the Week:

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

Monday: Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace. **Tuesday:** Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins. **Wednesday:** Pray 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 raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods. **Thursday:** Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood. **Friday:** Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying. **Saturday:** Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts. **Sunday:** Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.

Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Close

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son,
and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us. **Amen.**

Observing the Church Year

Liturgical Color(s) of the Week: White; Red

White - The color of the pure glory of Christ and the angels. Jesus comes at the fullness of time as the complete fulfillment of God's promises. Jesus' resurrection is the cause for our rejoicing. His purity before the Father becomes our purity.

Red - The color of fire and blood. Red symbolizes the gift of the Holy Spirit and the blood of the martyrs.

Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations This Week

NOTE: The following resources contain great summaries of the observances of the church year

- 1. TDP- "Treasury of Daily Prayer"*
- 2. CS- "Celebrating the Saints"*

April 20 - Johannes Bugenhagen, Pastor (W) (TDP p. 1289; CS p. 62)

April 21 - Anselm of Canterbury, Theologian (W) (TDP p. 1290; CS p. 64)

April 24 - Johann Walter, Kantor (W) (TDP p. 1290; CS p. 66)

April 25 - St. Mark the Evangelist (R) (TDP p. 1291; CS p. 68)

Looking Forward to Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Jubilate)

Readings: Isaiah 40:25-31 or Lamentations 3:22-33; 1 Peter 2:11-20 or 1 John 3:1-3; John 16:16-22

Those Who Wait on the Lord Shall Rejoice

The people of God are pilgrims and sojourners in this world, looking ahead to a destination yet to come (1 Peter 2:11-20). Though we are now children of God, the fullness of what we shall be has not yet been revealed (1 John 3:1-3). We are those who wait on the Lord. "The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him" (Lam. 3:25). Jesus tells us that the wait is just a little while. "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me" (John 16:16). Though you must experience sorrow for a time, though you must live as strangers in a world that is at enmity with Christ, yet your sorrow will be turned to joy when He returns. "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength" (Is. 40:31). The little while of weeping shall be replaced with an eternity of rejoicing in the presence of Christ the crucified and risen Savior. "And no one will take your joy from you" (John 16:22).