

FAITH IN THE WORD

For the week of The Fourth Sunday in Lent - Laetare
March 10 – March 16, AD 2024

The one who desires to be a pastor desires a good and noble thing. Much is demanded of the pastor as he is given to care for the flock given into his care. And as the devil hates the Word of God, so he will also hate those who are called by God to proclaim that Word. He will attack them day and night so that their preaching may be silenced. The pastor steps out onto a raging battlefield and if he is not adequately prepared, he will fall and his flock may fall with him. That is why he cannot be a recent convert because he has not yet endured the cross of faith. It will be easy for him to imagine that he is more spiritual than those around him. He also has not had time to soak in the teachings of the Holy Scriptures so that they move from head knowledge to formative knowledge that changes him. His confession must be tried and tested so that he does not wither under the attacks of false teaching and so that he can stand against false teachers and refute them privately and publicly. Let us support and pray for all faithful pastors and those who desire to become pastors that our Lord would preserve them from the attacks of the evil one and that in both their life and their preaching, the Name of Christ would be glorified.

The Catechism

As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to the household. 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. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Table of Duties

To Bishops, Pastors, and Preachers: 1 Timothy 3:2-4; 1 Timothy 3:6; Titus 1:9

The overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. **1 Timothy 3:2-4**

He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. **1 Tim. 3:6**

He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. **Titus 1:9**

THE ORDER OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER

INVOCATION

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

APOSTLES' CREED

1 Corinthians 11:26 – *For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

Psalm 4

HYMN OF THE MONTH

"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" (LSB 451)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSwV_vFZtk4

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT - LAETARE

① SUNDAY	JOHN 6:1-15	
② MONDAY	MARK 11:1-19	ZECHARIAH 9:9-12
③ TUESDAY	MARK 14:1-11	ISAIAH 49:13-18
④ WEDNESDAY	MATTHEW 27:11-26	
⑤ THURSDAY	MARK 14:12-31	ZECHARIAH 13:7-9
⑥ FRIDAY	MARK 14:32-52	PSALM 88
⑦ SATURDAY	GENESIS 22:1-14	HEBREWS 9:11-15

PRAYERS

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

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.

DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER

SUNDAY: *The joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for our congregation's faithfulness to the Word of God.*

MONDAY: *Faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; our calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; government; peace; for the leaders of our congregation.*

TUESDAY: *Deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

WEDNESDAY: *For marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; parents who must rear their children alone; for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

THURSDAY: *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; for our congregation, our pastor and his family.*

FRIDAY: *For the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

SATURDAY: *For faithfulness to the end; the physically and mentally sick and those who are dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Those members and friends of our congregation who are serving in the military (and their families): Emma Dammann (Army), Thomas Kun (Air Force), Brandon Lowery (Navy), Jesse Lowery (Navy), Ethan Sims (Air Force Reserves).
- The Franklin Fischer family
- Birthdays: Cheryl Wildauer (11), Lucy Schwiesow (13), Ellen Horn (15)
- Alissa Ulmer, Dony Reaves, Doug Drawe, Ethan Sims, Jeff Ellis



THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

Catechism: Table of Duties – What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors: I Corinthians 9:14; Galatians 6:6-7; 1 Timothy 5:17-18

Fifth Sunday in Lent - Judica – March 17, 2024

Hymns: 566, 430, 438, 420, 451, 617, 734

Readings: Genesis 22:1-14; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 8:42-59

