

## Congregation in Prayer Mar 20, 2016

Throughout the weekends in Lent we are taking a look at the greatest story ever told – the account of the birth, life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This week we focus on the passion of Christ. It begins with His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and builds to His crucifixion on Good Friday. These events would change the world forever! [Lk 19:28-38; Mk 15:16-39]

### The Order of Meditation and Prayer for Daily Use

(Pray and confess out loud as much of the Order of Meditation as possible)

**Theme for the Week:** The Greatest Story Ever Told  
A STORY that climaxes at the cross

**Invocation** (Spoken while making the sign of the cross to remember your baptism)  
In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Apostle's Creed**

**Learn by Heart Verse** (Practice saying this verse word for word, out loud, throughout the day)

Romans 8:28 (ESV) And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

**From the Catechism** (Read together and discuss briefly)

The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. 1 Cor. 9:14	<b>First Grade +</b>
Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Gal. 6:6–7	<b>Second Grade +</b>
The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." 1 Tim. 5:17–18	<b>Third Grade +</b>

### **Daily Bible Readings**

Monday: Mt 21:12-16 Jesus at the Temple  
Tuesday: Mt 26:17-46 Jesus institutes Communion, goes to Gethsemane  
Wednesday: Mk 15:1-20 Jesus put on trial  
Thursday: Jn 19:17-30 Jesus on the cross  
Friday: Lk 23:44-56 Jesus death and burial  
Saturday: looking ahead

## **Daily Themes for Prayer:**

Sunday: Pray for those who are prevented from gathering for worship: those who live in areas where persecution is strong; those who do not have a Christian church nearby; those who are homebound; those whose work keeps them away from worship.

Monday: Pray for the salvation and well-being of your neighbors; for our Lutheran schools, colleges, and seminaries; for those who serve as teachers, healthcare workers, police and firefighters; for good government and for peace.

Tuesday: Pray for your personal life of faith: that you would continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus, that the fruit of the Spirit would be evident in your life and relationships, that your attitudes, your reactions, and your choices would reflect your faith in Christ.

Wed: Pray for the mission of our congregation: to bring people hope, healing and new life through Jesus Christ. Pray about practical ways for you personally to join Jesus in His mission.

Thursday: Pray for your pastors. Pray for protection for them from the attacks of the enemy. Pray for their influence for Christ in the congregation and in the community. Pray that they are able to finish strong and remain faithful to the end.

Friday: Pray for the ministry of Lutheran Church Charities: for their comfort dog ministry; for their Lutheran Emergency Response Teams (LERT) that deploy when disasters happen here and around the country.

Saturday: Pray for the witness of you and your family to those God brings across your path. Pray for eyes to see the opportunities the Lord gives you to talk to others about Jesus or to serve them in His name.

## **Lord's Prayer**

## **Going with God's Blessing**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

## **Looking Ahead** (Take a look at the readings for next Sunday)

Jn 3:1-21 The STORY in a nutshell

Jn 20:24-31 Believe the STORY and have life!