

Congregation in Prayer Apr 10 , 2016

We couldn't have a greater contrast than the one in our readings today. Paul (Saul) is everything man shouldn't be. He stands against God by trying to thwart His work as he persecutes the church. Jesus, on the other hand, does God's will. This contrast is good news for you and I as the Jesus doing His Father's will changes Paul. As it is with Paul, so it is for us.

[Acts 9:1-22; Rev. 5:1-14; John 21:1-14]

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:

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)

Psalm 110:1 (ESV) The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

Of Civil Government Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong.	First Grade +
Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrong-doer. Rom. 13:1-4	Second Grade +

Daily Bible Readings

Monday	Daniel's Dream of the Four Beasts—Daniel 7:1-28
Tuesday	Daniel's Prayer—Daniel 9:1-6, 17-27
Wednesday	Daniel's Vision of a Man—Daniel 10:1—11:4 (12:1-13)
Thursday	The Proclamation of Cyrus the King of Persia—2 Chronicles 36:22-23
Friday	The End of the Babylonian Captivity—Ezra 1:1-11
Saturday	Looking Ahead

Daily Themes for Prayer: Second Sunday of the month

Sunday: Pray for those who help lead us in worship: our Pastors, our Elders, our organists. Pray that God's people are actively engaged as they worship. Pray for those who serve in our military and for our chaplains as they proclaim the Gospel.

Monday: Pray for the unemployed and underemployed; pray for the homeless in our community; pray for the ministries of DayBreak and MorningStar in our community; pray for the ministry of Feed My Starving Children.

Tuesday: Pray for our CrossRoad Life Recovery ministry and its leaders. Pray that this important ministry would continue to expand among us and through us. Pray that it might impact other congregations and communities around the country.

Wed: Pray for the ministries of our congregation: Braille, CrossRoad Life Recovery, DayBreak, Operation Christmas Child, Quilters, Sunny Hill, Spiritual Vitamins. Pray that new ministries might be developed among us that will impact lives through our serving.

Thursday: Pray also for ministries in our community: Guardian Angel Home, Joliet Area Hospice, Lambs Fold, Living Alternatives, Stepping Stones, Trinity Services.

Friday: Pray for our communities and neighborhoods; for our words of witness and acts of mercy to our neighbors.

Saturday: Pray that people would see the need to come to worship this weekend. Pray that we would be a welcoming, non-judgmental community of faith for them as they come.

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)