

The Congregation at Prayer

For the week of *Invocabit* (Lent 1)

Sunday, March 10, 2019 *through* Saturday, March 16, 2019

“Jesus Does Battle in Our Place”

Genesis 3:1-21; 2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Mathew 4:1-11

In the Garden, man exalts himself to be a god in place of God (Genesis 3:1–21). He succumbs to the temptation of the devil, and eating of the forbidden fruit, he receives death. But in the sin-cursed wilderness, God humbles Himself to become man in place of man (Matthew 4:1–11). He does not eat but fasts and bears the onslaughts of the devil for us, that we may be restored to life. Jesus stands as David in our place to do battle against the Goliath, Satan (1 Samuel 17:40–51). Though outwardly Jesus appears weak, yet He comes in the Name of the Lord of hosts. He draws from the five smooth stones of the books of Moses and slings the Word of God. The stone sinks into the forehead, and the enemy falls. In Christ, we are victorious over the devil. Let us therefore not receive the grace of God in vain (2 Corinthians 6:1–10), but seeing that we have a great High Priest, let us come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain help in time of need (Hebrews 4:14–16).

INVOCATION (*make the sign of the holy cross and say*)

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

THE 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 is seated 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.

PSALM Psalm 118

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

Article XV: Church Ceremonies

See Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions, pp. 39, 187-194

DAILY READINGS

Sunday, March 10: Genesis 4:1-5:32
Mark 2:18-28

Monday, March 11: Genesis 6:1-7:5
Mark 3:1-19

Tuesday, March 12: Genesis 7:11-8:12
Mark 3:20-35

Wednesday, March 13: Genesis 8:13-11:26
Mark 4:1-20

Thursday, March 14: Genesis 11:27-12:20
Mark 4:21-41

Friday, March 15: Genesis 13:1-14:24

Mark 5:1-20

Saturday, March 16: Genesis 15:1-21

Mark 5:21-43

HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 657:1, 4

A mighty fortress is our God,

A sword and shield victorious;

He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod

And wins salvation glorious.

The old satanic foe

Has sworn to work us woe,

With craft and dreadful might

He arms himself to fight.

On earth he has no equal.

God's Word forever shall abide,

No thanks to foes, who fear it;

For God Himself fights by our side

With weapons of the Spirit.

Were they to take our house,

Goods, honor, child, or spouse,

Though life be wrenched away,

They cannot win the day.

The Kingdom's ours forever!

PRAYERS

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

O Lord, look down from Heaven. Behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers: **[insert the names of family members, friends, church members, government officials, those in need, etc.]** Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy. Grant them comfort and sure confidence in You. Defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but ✠ deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit ✠ be with us all. Amen.

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT SUNDAY: *Reminiscere (Lent 2)*

Genesis 32:22-32 Psalm 121 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7 Mathew 4:15:21-28
Hymn of the Day *When in the Hour of Deepest Need* LSB 615