The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*for Propers 10C July 10, 2022*

*Pray and confess aloud 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.*

Catechesis Notes for Week – Psalm 3 – The Psalter begins by teaching us how to read the Psalms by showing us the importance of God’s Law in our lives (Psalm 1) and the victory of the Messiah (Psalm 2). Next, the Psalms give examples of morning (Psalm 3) and evening (Psalm 4) prayers. It is a lament psalm where David, fleeing from Absalom, lays out his cries and distress (v. 1-2). Many foes are rising against him and mocking him like Goliath mocked David. Next, David explains why God is his hope (v. 3-4), describing God as “a shield about me,” the “lifter of my head,” and that God is the One who “answered me from his holy hill.” Then, the Psalmist declares his faithfulness and courage in the face of extreme odds of being surrounded and outnumbered by thousands (v. 5-6). The psalm ends with a plea for deliverance (v. 7-8). He prays that God would strike the cheek and break the teeth of the enemies. “Salvation belongs to the Lord; your blessings be on your people!” Psalm 3 is the first time we see the word “Selah.” We’re not sure of what it means. “Selah” could be a musical cue, a notice of repetition, or maybe time for instrumental embellishment. Lastly, Psalm 3 is an example of the Seventh Petition by showing us that our Father is the One who rescues from every trouble of body and soul.

***Invocation*** -In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Verse:** Luke 15:24 – For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

***Apostle’s Creed***

**Psalm of the Week: Psalm 3**

**New Testament Stories Year III: Gospel of Luke**

**Bible Readings for the Week**

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| Sunday | Propers 10C – Luke 10:25-37 |
| Monday | The Parables of the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin – Luke 15:1-10 |
| Tuesday | The Parable of the Prodigal Son – Luke 15:11-32 |
| Wednesday | The Parable of the Unjust Steward – Luke 16:1-13 |
| Thursday | The Parable of the Rich Mand and Lazarus – Luke 16:14-31 |
| Friday | Faith as a Mustard Seed – Luke 17:1-10 |
| Saturday | Old Testament Propers for 11C – Genesis 18:1-10a |

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| **Catechism: The Office of the Keys** | **Grades** |
| What is the Office of the Keys? The office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent | 1st+ |
| Where is it written? This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven. (John 20:22-23 | 2nd+ |
| What do you believe according to these words? I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself. | 3rd+ |