

*For the week of the First Sunday in Advent
November 27th, through December 3rd, 2022*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — “Enfleshed: The Created Body” What are we to make of our bodies? Is it an instrument for pleasure? Is a prison for the soul? Is it simply the packaging we come in and shed for good once we die? It may seem like a question for academics and philosophers to speculate in an ivory tower, but in reality it is a very practical matter that determines the course of our lives. John Kleinig writes in his book, Wonderfully Made, “Even if we rarely think about our bodies, our opinion of them and attitude toward them subconsciously govern how we live and act every moment of our lives. Our beliefs about our bodies are always in play because our bodies are part and parcel of what we are.”

This week begins our Advent Series in which we take a look at the gift of the body that God has given us, inspired by Kleinig’s book. We think of the Bible as being a book meant for the soul and not the body, but when take the time to read through the Scriptures we cannot escape the fact that God has created us as body and soul. We are, indeed, “enfleshed” souls. Our body and souls are equally important to our lives as Christians. Therefore, how we view and treat our body has great effect upon the soul. And since our body is a gift to us, we did not create or choose our own bodies, our attitudes and actions toward our bodies reflect our attitudes toward the Giver of our bodies.

Kleinig writes, “My spiritual life, the life that is created and sustained by the Holy Spirit, is always lived in the body. It does not take me away from my body or occur apart from it. Rather, it takes me ever further and deeper into bodily life and into fuller embodiment as a human being. It makes me at home in my body as I live here on earth.” It is in our created body that God gives us life, and it is in this body that He intends for us to live. That is why He sent His own Son into our flesh, to live out in our flesh the obedience that we ourselves could not do. Jesus brought God’s own righteousness to our human flesh. And now He sends us His Spirit, to enliven our faith and empower our flesh to live in Him, now and forever.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

*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.*

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

APOSTLES’ CREED

VERSE: 1 TIMOTHY 6:8, 10A

But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils.

PSALM 122 or the appointed daily psalms

Prayer on the Psalm

Our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice before You, Lord, our God, because by Your Word of truth You have made us members of Your Holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive the sins of all those who build their trust on Jesus Christ. Grant us grace to abide in the love of Your Word, in purity of faith and in piety of life, even to our end. Amen.

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Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	116, 117	119:1-24	119:49-72	119:89-112	119:137-152	120, 121	124, 125	129, 130, 131
Evening	118	119:25-48	119:73-88	119:113-136	119:153-176	122, 123	126, 127, 128	132, 133

BIBLE READINGS

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Matthew 21:1-11	
Monday	Laban Persues Jacob—Genesis 31:22-42	John 7:53-8:11
Tuesday	Easu Comes to Meet Jacob—Genesis 32:1-21	John 8:12-38
Wednesday	St. Andrew, Apostle	
Thursday	Jacob Wrestles with God—Genesis 32:22-32	John 8:39-59
Friday	Jacob and Esau Meet—Genesis 33:1-11	John 9:1-23
Saturday	Isaiah 11:1-10	Romans 15:4-13

CATECHISM — The Lord's Prayer, The Fourth Petition

<i>Give us this day our daily bread.</i>	Preschool+
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.</p>	First Grade+
<p><i>What is meant by daily bread?</i> Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.</p>	Second Grade+

DEVOTION OR MEDITATION

DAILY PRAYER

Select from among the following prayers as time and circumstances allow:

Prayer on the Fourth Petition

Gracious Father, You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. Teach us to acknowledge You as the Lord who provides for all of our needs in body and soul and so give thanks to You for all of Your bountiful gifts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Collect of the Week

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** *For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacrament.*
- Monday:** *For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.*
- Wednesday:** *For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

In Our Prayers this Week

Our Congregation: *Linda Younkin; Marilyn Zimmerman; Charles & Laura Adams; Kevin Adams; Nick Adams; Timothy & Susan Ahrens; Tony Ahrens; Tyler Ahrens; Heidi Allan, Christopher, Zechariah; Riley Bacon; Steve & Luanne Baker; Alan & Rachel Barraza, Lena; Vinson & Carrie Barry, Adan, Austin, Zoe.*

Baptismal Birthdays: *JD Wadkins; Dave Breidenbach; Riley Bacon.*

Wedding Anniversaries: *Mike & Glenda Johnston; Charles & Laura Adams; Doug & Nancy Lasseter*

The Sick:

Friends of our Congregation: *Randall Roth, Pastor Roth's father; Judy, sister of Marty Piotrowsky*

Our Circuit:

Trinity Lutheran Church, Garnett

Zion Lutheran Church, Vassar; Rev. Joshua Woelmer

Our District Staff and President, *Rev. Justin Panzer.*

Tami Lierz, Administrative Assistant; Jeffrey Maltz, LCEF

Our Synod and President, *Rev. Matthew Harrison*

Our Community: *City of Richmond; City of Princeton; USD 288*

Our State and Governor, *Laura Kelly*

Our Nation and President, *Joseph Biden*

LORD'S PRAYER

MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER FROM THE CATECHISM

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.

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HYMN OF THE WEEK

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

340

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| <p>1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring;
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise
Your joyful songs of praise.</p> <p>2 A righteous Helper comes to thee;
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings;
Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise
Your grateful hymns of praise.</p> <p>3 How blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes
To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless sun of joy is He
Who comes to set His people free.
To God the Spirit raise
Your happy shouts of praise.</p> | <p>4 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov'reign enter in
And new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise
For word and deed and grace!</p> <p>5 Redeemer, come and open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine;
Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame
We offer to Thy name.</p> |
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Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Looking Forward to “Second Sunday in Advent”

December 4, 2022

Service Hymns: 344, 342, 347, 349, 370, 387, 523, 434, 338

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 | Psalm 72:1-7 | Romans 15:4-13 | Matthew 3:1-12

“John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ‘Repent’” (Matt. 3:1–2). His preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins prepared people for the coming of Christ into the world. St. John’s work was historically complete with the incarnate advent of Jesus, but his vital ministry continues in preaching Law and Gospel. The Son of God has come in the flesh, “a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots” (Is. 11:1), and continues to bear the fruits of righteousness. His good tree of the cross is “a signal for the peoples” (Is. 11:10), by which He calls the nations to repentance. “With the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips” (Is. 11:4), He slays the wicked and brings the dead to life, making sons of Abraham out of lifeless stones. So also the “root of Jesse” comes to us, “even he who arises to rule the Gentiles” (Rom. 15:12), that “we might have hope” and be filled “with all joy and peace in believing” (Rom. 15:4, 13).

