

*For the week of the Second Sunday in Lent  
March 5<sup>th</sup>, through March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — “Put Not Your Trust In Princes”** Much ink has been spilt on the proper relationship between the Christian and the government. It can be a hot topic to talk about. Some argue that good Christians should obey the government no matter what. Others argue good Christians should resist the government whenever the government is doing something that we don't like. And some will argue each of these at different times, depending on who the elected leaders are.

The truth is, the Scriptures are pretty clear concerning our calling as Christians. The trouble is that we often tend to get so caught up in the things of this life that we lose sight of the things eternal. Psalm 146 reminds us, “Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.” As Christians, our focus should be on Christ. He alone is our salvation. We do well to not lose sight of the fact that our representatives are neither superheroes or supervillains. They are people. Regular ordinary people who we have elected to represent us. Even the experts who are employed by the government are, at the end of the day, are just “making their best guess.”

Does that mean that we are free to ignore governing authorities? Nope. Governing authority is given by God. Like pastors, when someone is a governing authority they occupy an office established by God for our good. Unfortunately, just as with pastors, those people are also full of sin. That is why it is important to pick our leaders with much care and consideration, at least when we are afforded the opportunity to do such. We should also be in constant prayer for our leaders that they look to God's will in guiding their governance. When they fail to heed God's will we pray for their repentance and call them to account. We do not take up arms against them, however. We leave that to God. Yes, sometimes that means we suffer, but such suffering reminds us that our hope is in God alone.

### ***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: 2 CORINTHIANS 12:9**

*But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”  
Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weakness, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

#### **PSALM 121 or the appointed daily psalms**

##### **Prayer on the Psalm**

*To You, O God, who has hitherto been our Father and our Patron, do we lift up our eyes, knowing that from You alone can come our help and our salvation. Grant us a living trust in Your mercy and truth that hearts do not fear when we must pass through the fire of trials or must wade through the waters of affliction, but always maintain a cheerful trust in Your help, through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	80	82, 84	85, 87	88	90	92	94	97, 98
Evening	81	83	86	89	91	93	95, 96	99, 100

## **BIBLE READINGS**

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	John 3:1-17	
Monday	Palm Sunday—Matthew 21:1-17	James 4:1-17
Tuesday	Jesus is Anointed at Bethany—Matthew 26:2-16	James 5:1-20
Wednesday		
Thursday	Jesus Celebrates the Passover—Matthew 26:17-35	Hebrews 1:1-14
Friday	Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane—Matthew 26:36-56	Hebrews 2:1-18
Saturday	Exodus 17:1-7	Romans 5:1-8

## **CATECHISM — Table of Duties**

### ***Of the Civil Government***

Everyone must submit himself to the government authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.	First Grade+
Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves	Second Grade +
For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you.	Third Grade +
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 wrongdoer	Fourth Grade +

## **DEVOTION OR MEDITATION**

### **DAILY PRAYER**

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

#### ***Prayer on the Catechism***

O merciful Father in heaven, from You comes all rule and authority over the nations of the world for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well. Graciously regard Your servants, those who make, administer, and judge the laws of this nation, and look in mercy upon all the rulers of the earth. Grant that all who receive the sword as Your servants may bear it according to Your command. Enlighten and defend them, and grant them wisdom and understanding that under their peaceable governance Your people may be guarded and directed in righteousness, quietness, and unity. Protect and prolong their lives that we with them may show forth the praise of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

#### ***Collect of the Week***

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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:** *Becca, Ezekiel & Zoey Mingle; Steven & Debbie Neis; Dave & Kari Neiswender; Joe Oakes; Joann Oelke; Josh & Julie Ohlde, Landon, Ashlyn; David Oshel; Hunter & Emily Peoples, Luke, Will; Bret & Claire Perry, Brooks; Dana Peterson; Dave & Marty Piotrowsky*

**Baptismal Birthdays:** *CJ Smith; Ginger Davis; Mark Falls; Brian Luft; Graham Smith; Payton Lee; Xander Daniel; Diana Weber; James Weber*

**Wedding Anniversaries:** *Kirk & Lavonne Wright*

**The Sick:**

**Friends of our Congregation:**

**Our Circuit:**

*Faith Lutheran church, Emporia; Rev. Adam Reichart*

*Messiah Lutheran Church, Emporia; Rev. Eddie Hosch*

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

*Rev. Dan Galchutt, Missions and Stewardship*

*Jackie Schaefer, Communications Specialist*

**Our Synod and President,** *Rev. Matthew Harrison*

**Our Community:** *City of Pomona; City of Williamsburg; USD 287*

**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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—or—

*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.*

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

**“When in the Hour of Deepest Need”**

**615**

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|---|---|
| 1 When in the hour of deepest need<br>We know not where to look for aid;<br>When days and nights of anxious thought<br>No help or counsel yet have brought, | 4 And so we come, O God, today<br>And all our woes before You lay;<br>For sorely tried, cast down, we stand,<br>Perplexed by fears on ev'ry hand.           |
| 2 Then is our comfort this alone<br>That we may meet before Your throne;<br>To You, O faithful God, we cry<br>For rescue in our misery.                     | 5 O from our sins, Lord, turn Your face;<br>Absolve us through Your boundless grace.<br>Be with us in our anguish still;<br>Free us at last from ev'ry ill. |
| 3 For You have promised, Lord, to heed<br>Your children's cries in time of need<br>Through Him whose name alone is great,<br>Our Savior and our advocate.   | 6 So we with all our hearts each day<br>To You our glad thanksgiving pay,<br>Then walk obedient to Your Word,<br>And now and ever praise You, Lord.         |

Text: Paul Eber, 1511-69; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Text: Public domain

**Looking Forward to “Third Sunday in Lent”**

**March 12, 2023**

**Service Hymns:** 824, 426, 543, 435, 641, 638, 783, 628

**Readings:** Exodus 17:1-7 | Romans 5:1-8 | John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)

Though the Lord had brought them out of Egypt, “all the congregation of the people of Israel” grumbled against Him because “there was no water for the people to drink” (Ex. 17:1). Despite their quarreling, the Lord graciously provided for them. He did not strike the people for their sins, but by the hand of Moses He struck the rock instead and brought forth water for the people. In the same way, living water flows from the pierced side of Christ at “about the sixth hour” (John 4:6; 19:14), when He is lifted up on the cross for the sins of the world. He is “the gift of God” (John 4:10), the well from which the Holy Spirit is poured out and becomes in His people “a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:14). By this grace in which we stand, being at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, we “worship the Father in spirit and truth” (John 4:23). “We rejoice in hope of the glory of God” because “God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us” (Rom. 5:2, 5)

