



Saint Athanasius at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer in the homes of our families.

The Week of Easter 4

✠ May 12-17, 2025

2024-25 School Year Theme Verse

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

~ Colossians 3:16

This Week: *Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!* Our joy continues this Easter season even though the focus of this season now begins to change from looking *back* in joy on Jesus' resurrection to looking *forward* in joy to Jesus fulfilling His promise to send the Holy Spirit. Jesus sends the Spirit to guide and comfort us. The Spirit always comes through the Word of God, as we see in the reading from Acts. And by the power of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of Jesus He brings us, we are being changed into new creations, living new lives filled with joy. There are still sorrows in this world, but the Holy Spirit keeps us focused on Jesus, the source of our life and joy. So that even through thick and thin, ups and down, sorrows and sadness, we can have joy, for we know we are in Jesus and Jesus is in us.

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 permit. Learn by heart the verse and catechism for the week, as well as the theme verse (above) for the year.

Invocation

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

Confess the Apostles' Creed

(Consult the "Companion Sheet" for the words of this Creed.)

Read Psalm 148 *(see next page)*

Scripture for the Week to Read and Discuss

Monday	Psalm 148	<i>How can all the things of creation (even things that aren't alive!) praise the Lord? What does it mean to praise the Lord? Why will all creation do this? Why do we?</i>
Tuesday	Isaiah 12:1-6	<i>Why is Isaiah so filled with joy in these verses? What has God done for us? How has He triumphed? What does it mean that God is our strength, our song, and our salvation?</i>
Wednesday	James 1:16-21	<i>How are we sometimes deceived into thinking that all we have is <u>not</u> from God? Who deceives us like that? How does knowing this change how we live?</i>
Thursday	Acts 11:1-18	<i>What gave Peter confidence to go to the Gentiles? When (and how!) did the Holy Spirit come upon the Gentiles this day? Why is this an important detail? How does the Holy Spirit still come to us the same today?</i>
Friday	Revelation 21:1-7	<i>Jesus is making all things new! That's sounds great! What does that mean? Why do we need this? What will this be like? How is it described here?</i>
Saturday	John 16:12-22	<i>Why would the disciples sorrow? How would Jesus give them joy? Who did Jesus promise to send them? What will He do? How?</i>

Learn by Heart

Scripture: Revelation 21:5 – "And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." "

Catechism: **The Sacrament of the Altar:** *What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?* These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

Prayers

Collect for the Week: O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Pray for Caleb, Eli, and Juliana

Pray that the Holy Spirit continue to keep you strong in faith, constant in prayer, and confident in God's love for you.

Pray the Lord's Prayer, and either the Morning or Evening Prayer.
(Consult the "Companion Sheet" for the words of these prayers.)

Psalm 148



- ¹Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the | heavens,*
praise him | in the heights!
- ²Praise him, all his | angels,*
praise him, | all his hosts!
- ³Praise him, | sun and moon,*
praise him, all you | shining stars!
- ⁴Praise him, you highest | heavens,*
and you waters above the | heavens!
- ⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD!*
For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.
- ⁶And he established them forever and | ever,*
he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.
- ⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth,*
you great sea creatures and | all deeps,
- ⁸fire and hail, | snow and mist,*
stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!
- ⁹Mountains and | all hills,*
fruit trees and all | cedars!
- ¹⁰Beasts and all | livestock,*
creeping things and | flying birds!
- ¹¹Kings of the earth and all | peoples,*
princes and all rulers | of the earth!
- ¹²Young men and maidens to- | gether,*
old men and | children!
- ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is ex- | alted,*
his majesty is above earth and | heaven.
- ¹⁴He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for | all his saints,*
for the people of Israel who are near to him. | Praise the LORD!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
 and to the Holy | Spirit;
 as it was in the be- | ginning,*
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Hymn for the Week: 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

(Go to our website for a link to the music to listen to and sing along with this hymn)



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight,
 You have brought us life and light.
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
 Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise,
 And Your saints in You shall rise.
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 Newborn souls in You to be.
 Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.
 Alleluia!

Acknowledgments

Liturgy sections from Lutheran Service Book

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