

FAITH IN THE WORD

Faith Lutheran Church, Wylie Texas - *Many members. One body united in Christ.*

For the week of Exaudi - Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17 – May 23 AD 2026

The question before us from the Small Catechism this week seems a little silly but is of the greatest importance. Of course, just plain water can't forgive sins or rescue you from death and the devil or give you eternal salvation. Water by itself has no such power. When you wash your hands before eating, you're not washing away sin. But Holy Baptism is not just water. The sole power of Holy Baptism is the creative and life-giving Word of God. His Word alone has the power and authority to cause Baptism to do such great things. It's not the pastor or the source of the water or even the faith of the one being baptized. Because Almighty God has declared that "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved," it is so. We don't have to understand how. That wouldn't really even be faith. We simply trust that what our Lord Jesus Christ said is true. He raised people from the dead. He caused the sun to stand still. He brought forth water from a rock. Our confidence in Holy Baptism is not in plain water. It is in the Word which God speaks about the water which bears to us the Holy Spirit who makes us holy by covering us in the righteousness and holiness of Jesus. So, when you remember your baptism, remember most importantly what the Lord Jesus Christ has promised you in Holy Baptism. God grant it for Jesus' sake.

Catechism

As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to the household. 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 month.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's Word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the Word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." (Titus 3:5-8)

THE ORDER OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER

INVOCATION

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

APOSTLES' CREED

MEMORY VERSE

1 John 1:8 – If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

PSALM OF THE MONTH

Psalm 47

HYMN OF THE MONTH

“On Christ's Ascension I Now Build” (LSB 492)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF EXAUDI – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

① SUNDAY	JOHN 15:26—15:4	
② MONDAY	JOHN 17:20-26	1 CHRONICLES 16:31-36
③ TUESDAY	MATTHEW 28:16-20	DANIEL 7:9-14
④ WEDNESDAY	MARK 16:9-20	JOSHUA 1:1-9
⑤ THURSDAY	LUKE 24:44-53	GENESIS 22:1-19
⑥ FRIDAY	ACTS 1:12-26	ISAIAH 52:7-10
⑦ SATURDAY	GENESIS 11:1-9	ACTS 2:1-21

PRAYERS

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER

SUNDAY: *The joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for our congregation's faithfulness to the Word of God.*

MONDAY: *Faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; our calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; government; peace; for the leaders of our congregation.*

TUESDAY: *Deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

WEDNESDAY: *For marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; parents who must rear their children alone; for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

THURSDAY: *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; for our congregation, our pastor and his family.*

FRIDAY: *For the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

SATURDAY: *For faithfulness to the end; the physically and mentally sick and those who are dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Those who are homebound: Judy Michels, Melanie Obenhaus, Vicky Cantrell, Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Pete Kun, Cristine Purcell.
- We pray that our Heavenly Father would grant joy and faithfulness to the young adults of our congregation, blessing them as they begin families, continue their studies, and enter the workforce.
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Tristana Tiro (18), Jake Johnson ((22), Roberta Lowery (22), Lance Dorrell (23), Cathy Miksch (23).
- Emma Cassanova, Leah Savage for protection of mother and child in pregnancy.
- Patti Ellis, in thanksgiving for successful eye surgery.
- Those undergoing cancer treatments: Doug Drawe, Dana Evans, Robin Wildauer, Sarah Wickham, Leigh R., Kyle, Bonnie Hennig, Sandra Zastrow, Randy Cooper, Criss Purcell.
- Those struggling with ongoing health issues: JE Purcell, Kristina Wishmeyer, Edith Wright, Dony Reaves, Rush, Ruth Pritchett, Galen Dino, Lindsay Penrose, Stephanie, Harrison, Reagan, Katrina, Oleh Cholak, Doug Wall.
- Those experiencing other challenges:
Greg Sims, Andrew Fischer.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

The Feast of Pentecost, May 24, 2026

Catechesis: The Creed: The Third Article

Hymns: 768, 497, 492, 597, 623, 601, 498

Readings: Genesis 11:1-9; Acts 2:1-21; John 14:23-31

