

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Week of the Sixth Sunday of Easter/ Rogate
 May 21, 2017 through May 28, 2017

Catechesis Notes for the Week—To Employers and Supervisors—Christian employers and supervisors are also to be governed in their work by their faith in the Gospel. This is the meaning of the phrase “in the same way.” In the same way that workers are led by their faith in the Gospel to be faithful in their work, employers and supervisors are to be led by the Gospel in their conduct toward their workers. A Christian employer is not to threaten, coerce, or abuse his workers. This does not mean that a Christian employer has to put up with laziness or shoddy workmanship from his employees. Faith in God’s grace and forgiveness does not mean tolerating sin, malfeasance, or neglect of one’s duties. Faith in God’s grace and forgiveness means that the Christian employer administers his office within the secular kingdom fairly, impartially, and for the welfare of his other employees and customers. If a worker requires discipline or needs to be fired because of failures in the workplace, such actions are not taken out of vengeance but with the understanding that Christ is the “Master” of both the employer and the employee and “there is no favoritism with Him.” A worker who is derelict in his duties must be disciplined or removed from his work, not primarily because he is stealing from his employer (which he is), but because his failures hinder the capacity of his employer to serve others in love with the services and work his business provides.

To Youth—“Submission” and “humility” are not terms that any of us naturally gravitate toward. The sinful flesh wants to submit to no one and is filled with arrogance and pride. If the sinful flesh doesn’t get its way, it rebels. Where does the will to “submit” and “humble one’s self” come from? It comes from faith in the Gospel. Our Lord Jesus submitted Himself as a young man, because He trusted in His Father who promised to do good through His submission. He humbled Himself to the point of death on the cross because, He trusted His Father to do good through His suffering. When youth are admonished to submit to their elders and humble themselves before them, they are really being invited to trust God to do them good in their office as youth, even though they may have to endure things that they don’t agree with or enjoy. The way of faith is always the way of deference toward others. This we learn to believe through the faithful reception of the Gospel and Sacrament of our Lord. [Reprinted from Lutheran Catechesis: Catechist Edition]

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. Use the Lutheran Service Book hymnal. Daily Prayer for Individuals and Families begins on page 294, including simple orders of prayer for Morning, Noon, Evening, and Close of Day.

Theme: Whatever You Ask in My Name It Will Be Done for You!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: John 14:2-3

In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you.
 I go to prepare a place for you.³ And if I go and prepare a place for you,
 I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

Psalm 100 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	60, 61	65	66	68	71	73	75, 76	78
Evening	62	63, 64	67, 70	69	72	74	77	79

Readings for the Week of the Sixth Sunday of Easter/ Rogate

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Second Reading
Sunday	Jesus Has Overcome the World—John 16:23-33	John 16:23-30
Monday	The Life of the Church—Acts 2:37-47	Luke 11:1-13
Tuesday	The Genealogy of Jesus—Matthew 1:1-17	Luke 18:1-8
Wednesday	The Baptism of Our Lord—Matthew 3:13-17	John 17:1-6
Thursday	The Temptation of Our Lord—Matthew 4:1-11	Mark 16:14-20
Friday	Jesus’ Ministry and the Call of the Fishermen—Matthew 4:12-25	Luke 24:48-53
Saturday	Look ahead to Sunday’s readings	John 13:31-35
Sunday	Sunday’s readings	John 15:26—16:4

**The Catechism: The Table of Duties— To Employers and Supervisors; To Youth
(Preschool Children and everyone, review the primary texts of the first through tenth commandments)**

<p><i>What does God's Word say to Employers and Supervisors?</i> Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with Him.</p>	<p>Third Grade + Ephesians 6:9</p>
<p><i>What does God's Word say to Youth?</i> Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."</p>	<p>First Grade + 1 Peter 5:5</p>
<p>Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.</p>	<p>Second Grade + 1 Peter 5:6</p>

Prayers: Collect for the Week, Catechism Prayers, and In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the week of the Sixth Sunday of Easter/ Rogate:

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer for Employers and Supervisors

Gracious Lord, You have given us great responsibilities and authority as employers and supervisors of others. Teach us by Your grace and mercy to treat our workers and those who are under us with respect, understanding, and compassion. Give us a humble spirit toward them and help us to see our workers as gifts of God who depend upon us for their livelihood and who enable us to be of greater service to others for whom we perform our life's work; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Youth

O Lord, as You in humility and faith submitted Yourself to Mary and Joseph and to every authority instituted among men for our salvation, teach us to submit to our elders and to believe that You will accomplish Your good purposes in our lives and in the lives of others through such honor and respect; in Your holy name we pray. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Pray 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.

Wedding anniversaries: Mark/Julie Goltermann, 25th; James/Cheri LaFore, 48th; Guenther/Luise Bollmeyer, 63rd.

For the sick and recovering: Doug Pom (recovering from an infection); Pat Rothe, Cindy Hirtz, and Lisa Eldridge and Pat Loose (receiving treatment for cancer); Glenn Lindemann (recovering from orthopedic surgery); Ann Leque, recently hospitalized.

Elaine Boetcher in hospice care

The family of Marjorie Legband who mourn her death.

Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week

"The Head That Once Was Crowned" (stanzas 1, 5-6)

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Looking forward to the Seventh Sunday of Easter/Exaudi

May 28, 2017

Hymns: 494, 539, 155, 639, 701, 601

Ezekiel 36:22-28, 1 Peter 4:7-14, John 15:26—16:4

The Spirit of truth testifies of Jesus, who is the Truth. But the world does not receive the Truth. It loves its own and hates those who are of the Truth. Just as Jesus was scorned, so is His church. "The time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service." (Jn. 15:26—16:4) Yet it is by Jesus' suffering and death that we are saved. Therefore we rejoice to share in His sufferings, that we may also share in His resurrection glory. (1 Pet. 4:7—14) Through the ministry of the Spirit of truth, we are cleansed from the deceit of our idols and given a new heart and a new spirit, the heart and Spirit of Christ. (Ezek. 36:22—28) He is now at work in us to have fervent, self-giving love for one another, love which covers a multitude of sins, "that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."