

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
September 16, 2018 through September 23, 2018

Catechesis Notes for the Week —Praying the Psalms: Psalm 1—This week we begin a series of commentaries on all 150 Psalms. The Psalms are prayers of faith. Luther called them an exposition of what it means to trust in God under the First Commandment. Psalm 1 declares that the “blessed man” is the one who is rooted and anchored in God’s Word. He does not walk in the way of the wicked or stand with sinners or sit with scoffers, which is the way of unbelief and rejection of God. Instead, he delights in God’s Law, the Word of the Lord, and meditates upon it day and night. The blessed man, who delights in God’s Word, is like a tree that is planted by streams of living water that will not fail to bring forth the wholesome fruits of faith. The ungodly will perish in their unbelief. But the blessed man is righteous by virtue of the gift of God’s Word that is received and believed. Ultimately, Jesus is that Blessed Man because He delights in the Law of the Lord and He meditates upon it day and night. This state of blessedness becomes ours for Christ’s sake through faith in the Word of the Gospel by which we are declared righteous for Jesus’ sake.

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.

Theme: Christ Restores Us to Life with God and One Another!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 5:8

God demonstrates His own love toward us,
in that while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.

Psalm 1 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord God, heavenly Father forgive us for walking in the teachings of the ungodly, for standing in the path of the sinners, or for sitting with those who scoff at Your Word. Teach us to delight in Your Word and to meditate upon it day and night, so that we might be like a strong tree that is planted by the streams of living water. Grant that through faith in Your Son the righteousness of Christ, the Blessed Man, might be ours; through the same Jesus Christ, 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	103	105	107	109	112, 113	115	117, 118	119:1-24
Evening	104	106	108	110, 111	114	116	120, 121	119:25-48

Readings for the Week of the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy OR use → → → → →	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	The Raising of the Widow of Nain’s Son—Luke 7:11-17	2 Chron. 35:1-7, 16-25	Col. 3:1-25
Monday	The Ark Is Brought to Jerusalem—2 Samuel 6:1-19	2 Chron. 36:1-23	Col. 4:1-18
Tuesday	God’s Covenant with David—2 Samuel 7:1-17	Neh. 1:1-2:10	1 Tim. 1:1-20
Wednesday	David’s Thanksgiving to God—2 Samuel 7:18-29	Neh. 2:11-20, 4:1-6	1 Tim. 2:1-15
Thursday	David Shows Kindness to Mephibosheth—2 Samuel 9:1-13	Neh. 4:7-23	1 Tim. 3:1-16
Friday	David and Bathsheba—2 Samuel 11:1-17, 22-25	Neh. 5:1-16, 6:1-9, 15-16	1 Tim. 4:1-16
Saturday	Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings Sunday’s readings	Neh. 7:1-4, 8:1-18	1 Tim. 5:1-16
Sunday	Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings Sunday’s readings	Neh. 9:1-21	1 Tim. 5:17-6:2

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments— The Seventh and Eighth Commandments

What is the Seventh Commandment? You shall not steal.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.	First Grade +

Prayers on the Seventh Commandment:

Heavenly Father forgive us our sins of stealing and strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Seventh Commandment You teach us that all of our possessions and income are gifts of your love. You have given us our daily work and earthly resources that we might serve our neighbor in need. For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins of selfishness and greed, of being stingy and making a god out of our money and possessions, of cheating others to get what we don't deserve, of being lazy in our daily tasks, and of working only for the benefit of ourselves. We thank You for the privilege of being able to share Your love and care for others through the daily work and temporal gifts You have given us. Grant us Your grace and compassion in Jesus that we might be faithful stewards of these gifts, using them according to Your will to help our neighbors in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

<p>What is the Eighth Commandment? You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.</p>	<p>Preschool +</p>
<p>What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.</p>	<p>Second Grade +</p>

Prayers on the Eighth Commandment:

Heavenly Father forgive us our sins of giving false testimony against our neighbor and strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything about him in the kindest way; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Most merciful God and Father, in the Eighth Commandment You teach us that a person's good name and reputation are gifts of your grace and that you desire them to be defended and protected by what we say. For Jesus' sake, forgive us for every form of lying, gossip, and slander which hurts our neighbor in the eyes of others. Forgive us for all the ways in which we pass judgment against our neighbor when we have not been given the authority to do so. Forgive us for failing to defend our neighbor when his good name and reputation are being attacked by others. By Your words of grace and mercy to us in Jesus, teach us to tell the truth in love, and strengthen us to cover our neighbor's sins with words of forgiveness and compassion: through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

In Our Prayers this Week

Gale Grandy, Uncle of Kathy May, recovering from a stroke.

Maria Flores, Jocelyn Bender's grandmother, Phyllis, sister of Rosie Kopting, and Fern Koch in hospice care.

Collect for the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, we pray that Your grace may always go before and follow after us, that we may continually be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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

Hymn of the Week

"Beautiful Savior" (stanzas 1-4)

Looking forward to the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

September 23, 2018

Hymns: 636 (1-6), 557, 623, 934, 544, 636 (7-8)

Proverbs 25:6-14; Ephesians 4:1-6; Luke 14:1-11

"Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence" (Prov. 25:6-14). Rather, take the lowest position at the table. Humble yourself before Him. For your place is not for you to take but for Him to give. Conduct yourself with all lowliness and gentleness, bearing with one another in love (Eph. 4:1-6), that the King may give you glory in the presence of those at the table with you. "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:1-11). Is this not the way of Christ? He is the one who took the lowest place, who humbled Himself even to the point of death for us. He is now exalted to the highest place at the right hand of the Father that penitent believers may be exalted together with Him in the resurrection. To the humble at His Supper He says, "Friend, move up higher," giving you His very body and blood for your forgiveness that you may ascend to take part in the great wedding feast which has no end. (LSB Lectionary Summaries)