

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
September 5 through September 12, 2021*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 123: A Prayer for Help Against Those Who Hold Christians in Contempt—Psalm 123 is another Song of Ascent as the people entered into the Lord's presence for worship. Christians are often the object of contempt, ridicule, and scorn from those who do not believe in the Gospel. We often grow weary of being attacked because we hold fast to God's Word and confess the name of Christ. Psalm 123 directs the eyes of faith to look up to the Lord in the heavens, just as a servant relies upon his master or a maid relies upon her mistress for help. We have had our fill of the ridicule of unbelievers, and so we pray for relief in the Lord's mercy. He will have mercy upon us, for He is our faithful Lord and Savior and He will not abandon us to those who hold us in contempt.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess 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: Our Lord Cleanses Us from the Leprosy of Sin!

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: Romans 5:19

**By one man's disobedience many were made sinners,
so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.**

Psalm 123 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, we look to You for help, comfort, strength, and mercy when we are assaulted and ridiculed by those who hate You and hold Your Word in contempt. Relieve our suffering and sustain us in Your peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	8, 9	10	14, 15	18	19, 20	22	26, 27	30
Evening	7	11, 12	13	16, 17	21	23, 24	25	28, 29

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Jesus Cleanses the Ten Lepers—Luke 17:11-19	
Monday	No School—Labor Day	Proverbs 1:1-19
Tuesday	Saul Seeks Counsel from a Medium—1 Samuel 28:3-25	2 Timothy 1:1-12
Wednesday	The Tragic Death of King Saul—1 Samuel 31:1-13	2 Timothy 1:13-18
Thursday	David Mourns the Death of Saul—2 Samuel 1:1-16 (17-27)	2 Timothy 2:1-13
Friday	David Reigns over All Israel—2 Samuel 5:1-5 (6-8) 9-10 (11-25)	2 Timothy 2:14-26
Saturday	Sunday's OT and Epistle—1 Kings 17:8-16	Galatians 5:25—6:10

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments— The Fifth and Sixth Commandments

<p><i>What is the Fifth Commandment?</i> You shall not murder.</p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.</p>	First Grade +
<p><i>What is the Sixth Commandment?</i> You shall not commit adultery.</p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.</p>	Second Grade +

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

Prayers on the Fifth Commandment:

Heavenly Father, forgive us our sins against the Fifth Commandment. Strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Fifth Commandment You teach us that the gift of life is sacred and holy, and that it is to be protected from every form of murder. By the gift of Your only-begotten Son You saved us from death and restored life with You. We give thanks to You for this gift and for our new life in Christ. Forgive us for every form of murder—for hatred, resentment, and refusing to forgive those who have sinned against us. Grant us Your grace and mercy that we might let go of all grudges, sincerely forgive our enemies, and truly help and support our neighbor in every physical need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayers on the Sixth Commandment:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of marriage, where you join together a man and a woman in love for each other and, when it is Your will, to become a father and a mother. Strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we lead a pure and decent life in what we say and do, and grow to be faithful husbands and wives who love and honor our spouses, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Sixth Commandment You teach us that marriage is Your gift to us, where a man and a woman are brought together in love to become one flesh and, when it is Your will, for receiving the gift of children. Thank You for this wonderful gift to us. Forgive us for every sin against marriage and the Sixth Commandment. Uphold all husbands and wives in their marriages. Give them faithfulness to Your Word. Teach them to live according to Your will. Strengthen them to live in Your love for each other; and enable them to live sexually pure and decent lives in everything that they say and do as husbands and wives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

The Office of the Ministry: *The Lord's guidance and blessing upon our calling of an Associate Pastor and headmaster.*

Baptismal Birthdays: *Scott Perry (9/10), Erin Hoffmann (9/11).*

Wedding Anniversaries: *Mark and Melody Ruhbusch (9/6).*

Thanksgiving for Sustaining Grace: *Jim Nitzsche, Jeremy LaFore,*

The sick: *Luise Bollmeyer*

Cancer treatment: *Gabby Hartwig continuing treatment for childhood cancer; James Loker, liver cancer. Aburuyeba Amaso, breast cancer.*

Those who mourn: *Family of Jennifer Stevenson, CUC graduate in Michigan, tragically killed in a car accident.*

Collect for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, keep Your Church with Your perpetual mercy; and because of our frailty we cannot but fall, keep us ever by Your help from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" (stanzas 1-4)

524

Looking forward to the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 12, 2021

Hymns: 750, 760, 736, 557, 734, 598

I Kings 17:8-16: *The Lord provided for the widow of Zarephath. Daily bread that sustains the body is a gift of God's grace to all people. We are to learn through how He provides for us every moment of every day that He will surely provide us with the greater gifts of His salvation in Christ. The Lord not only provided daily bread for this widow and her son, but He also provided her with the one thing needful above all else: the Lord's saving Word.*

Galatians 5:25-6:10: *St. Paul describes the life of faith in the grace of God in Christ: We seek to restore those who have fallen from the faith; we bear one another's burdens; we live in humility toward one another, considering others as better than ourselves; we support our ministers and those who teach us the life-giving Word of God with in the Church; and we take every opportunity to do good to all, especially to those of the household of faith, because that is what Christ has done for us.*

Matthew 6:24-34: *In our Baptism we are placed IN CHRIST, so that all that He is and has done for us might be ours and so that we might live confidently and joyfully IN CHRIST. This Sunday's Gospel is a section of the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus catechizes us on the First Commandment: You shall have no other gods! According to the First Commandment, we are to depend upon God and trust in Him for everything without doubting. We cannot serve two masters. Worry does not give us the food to eat, the clothes to wear, or the protection we need. If God takes care of the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, then God will take care of us. How comforting it is to know and learn to believe that God's care for us is NOT dependent upon our strength of faith. The conclusion of this section invites us to "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" and we will be freed from all the anxiety of life. This final word directs us to Jesus. He ushers in God's kingdom. His suffering and death upon the cross for us is "the righteousness of God" that covers all our sin. The more our faith is fixed upon Him and all that He has done for us, the more the idolatry of worry and anxiety of life flees from us. It is in Jesus that we see the perfect man of faith. He fears, loves, and trusts in His Father above all things. Because He did this for us, we are clothed with a more glorious garment than the lilies of the field and we are fed with a food that is more nourishing than anything this creation has to offer. "Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things."*