

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Week of the Feast of Pentecost
 May 19, 2024, through May 26, 2024

Catechesis Notes for the Week — The Table of Duties: 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 oneself” 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. [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.

Theme: Come Holy Spirit and Fill Us with the Fire of Your Love!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Revelation 21:4

God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying.
 There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

Psalm 143 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O God of all peace and consolation, who gloriously fulfilled the great promise of the Gospel by sending down Your Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost to establish the Church as the home of our Lord’s continual presence and power among us, mercifully grant to us, we beseech You, this same gift of Your Spirit, to renew, enlighten, refresh, and sanctify us, to be over us and around us like the light and dew of heaven, and to be in us evermore as a well of water springing up into everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, be all honor and glory, forever and ever. 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	If Anyone Loves Me He Will Keep My Word—John 14:23-31	
Monday	Peter and John Heal the Lame Man—Acts 3:1-10	Joel 1:1-12
Tuesday	Peter Preaches in the Temple—Acts 3:11—4:4	Joel 1:13-20
Wednesday	Peter and John Are Arrested—Acts 4:5-22	Joel 2:1-11
Thursday	Peter and John Give Thanks for Being Persecuted—Acts 4:23-31	Joel 2:12-17
Friday	Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Holy Spirit—Acts 4:32—5:16	Joel 2:18-27
Saturday	An Angel Frees the Apostles from Prison—Acts 5:17-42	Joel 2:28-32

The Catechism: Table of Duties — To Employers and Supervisors; To Youth

(Kindergarten children and everyone, review the primary texts of the first commandment through the conclusion)

<p>What does God’s Word say to employers and supervisors? 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>What does God’s Word say to youth? 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, Daily Themes for Prayer, and In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the Feast of Pentecost

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer — “Let us pray...”

- Sunday:** *For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.*
- Friday:** *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.*
- Saturday:** *For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.*

In Our Prayers this Week — “Let us pray for...”

Baptismal Anniversaries: Jacob Weber (5/19), Bob Corso (5/20), Peter Greschner (5/21), Autumn Walentoski (5/23), Jordan Fischer (5/24).

Wedding Anniversaries: Adam and Gracelyn Kerner (5/19), Jeff and Ali Meehan (5/20), Mark and Julie Goltermann, Nathen and Jenny Duessler (5/22).

Installation: Rev. Eamonn Ferguson as associate pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Wheaton, IL (May 19).

The Sick: Marty Bruss being treated for pneumonia; Pete Greschner following hospitalization; Rev. Dan McMiller being treated for heart disease; Jim Cardo recently diagnosed with stage 3 prostate cancer; Bruce Fehr, Bill Spilger, Rev. Dr. John Wille, Rev. Luke Boehringer, Jean Reuss, and Gabby Hartwig for cancer.

Those in Hospice: Yet Ngor Wong (grandmother-Nicola Giordano)

Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.

Hymn of the Week

“Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest” (stanzas 1 and 6)

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Looking forward to the Feast of the Holy Trinity

May 26, 2024

Hymns: 822, 499, 590, 591, 571, 876

Isaiah 6:1-7: “I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.” Isaiah made this confession of his own sin and unworthiness when he was called by the Lord to be a prophet. This confession should be made by every minister of the Word. If our call was based upon our worthiness, there would be no ministers. Isaiah’s worthiness was in the Lord who had purged him of his sins so that he might preach the Word of God faithfully. Herein lies an important message: the minister is equipped to preach the Gospel when he himself is a hearer and believer in that Gospel. If he doesn’t hear and believe it for himself, he will never be able to minister it to others. The Vision of Isaiah is appointed for Holy Trinity Sunday because of the vision of the angels of heaven who sing the Sanctus, Holy, Holy, Holy, around the throne of God. This song of the angels teaches us that life with and in the Blessed Trinity is opened to us through the ministry of the Word of God that proclaims forgiveness of sins to sinners.

Romans 11:33-36: Paul extols the richness of the grace and love of the Holy Trinity, which is beyond our capacity to fully grasp and understand. All glory belongs to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit because of His great mercy and lovingkindness to us.

John 3:1-17: God is revealed to us in our Baptism where we are born again of water and the Holy Spirit. In our Baptism God gives us His strong name which proclaims to us who He is and all that He does for us. It is as if He were saying, “I am the one true God. I give you my Name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; You belong to me. I have adopted you as my very own. I am the Father who created you. I am the Son who has redeemed you by My blood. I am the Holy Spirit who has called you to faith and sanctifies you through the blood of Christ. I am your God.” The strong name of the Triune God is our protection throughout life. Let us call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks. “Blessed be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity: let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mercy to us. O Lord, our Lord: how excellent is Your name in all the earth!” (From the Introit for Holy Trinity)