

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Fifth Sunday of Easter/Cantate
May 18 through May 25, 2025

Catechesis Notes for the Week — The Table of Duties: for 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. From where does the will to “submit” and “humble oneself” come? 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 the death of 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.

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: O Sing to the Lord a New Song!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Acts 14:22b

Continue in the faith ... “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”

Psalm 98 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, may be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	19, 20	22	26, 27	30	32	33	35	37
Evening	21	23, 24	25	28, 29	31	34	36	38

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Promise of the Holy Spirit—John 16:5-15	
Monday	The Baptism and Genealogy of Jesus—Luke 3:(1-20) 21-38	Ecclesiastes 1:1-18
Tuesday	The Temptation of Our Lord—Luke 4:1-15	Ecclesiastes 2:1-26
Wednesday	Jesus Is Rejected in Nazareth—Luke 4:16-30	Ecclesiastes 3:1-22
Thursday	The Signs of the Messiah—Luke 4:31-44	Ecclesiastes 4:1-16
Friday	Jesus Calls Fishers of Men—Luke 5:1-11	Ecclesiastes 5:1-20
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Numbers 21:4-9	James 1:22-27

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)

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.	Third Grade + Ephesians 6:9
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.”	First Grade + 1 Peter 5:5
Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.	Second Grade + 1 Peter 5:6

Prayers: Collect for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, and In Our Prayers at Peace

Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter/Cantate

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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: Paul and Jennifer Johnson (5/18), Adam and Gracelyn Kerner (5/19), Jeff and Ali Meehan (5/20), Mark and Julie Goltermann, Nate and Jennifer Duessler (5/22).

The sick: Bill Brahm hospitalized with pneumonia; Anna Steinhilb and Cynthia Hirtz recovering from surgery; Kevin Kehres and Bob Corso following hospitalization.

In cancer treatment: Laurie Roe, Ken Hinckle, Steven Jahnke, Gary Luderman, Rachel Preus, Tempy McCombe, Diane Bulawa, and Rev. Luke Boehringer.

Those in hospice: Don Fell, in-home hospice and Charles Schwen (brother of Carol Bender).

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

Hymn of the Week

“To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray” (stanzas 1-4)

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Looking forward to the Sixth Sunday of Easter/Rogate

May 25, 2025

Hymns: 525, 766, 724, 769, 773, 889

Numbers 21:4-9: *The bite of the fiery serpents was sent upon the Children of Israel that they might see the consequences of their rebellion against God. God afflicted them that God might bring them to repentance and faith. Moses interceded for them and the people confessed their sin in repentant faith. God’s will was done. He provided salvation through the sign of the bronze serpent upon the pole that future generations would look upon the one who hung in shame from the cross for the salvation of the entire world. The innocent Son of God became what we are as the Father imputed to Him our iniquity, that we might become what He is: righteous, holy, and eternally reconciled to the Father. Whoever “looks upon the bronze serpent” or “believes in the Son’s sacrifice for us upon the cross” shall be saved.*

James 1:22-27: *“Doing the Word” is produced by faith in the Word. If there is no faith in God’s Word, there is no hope of “doing the Word.” Works always flow from faith in Christ and in His Word of salvation. “The Law of Liberty” is a reference to the Gospel that sets us free from our sin and gives us true liberty. The Gospel does not coerce us. It creates a living trust of the heart that lays hold of Christ and desires to live according to His Word. We are not saved by our works, but the works that flow from faith are the living proof that faith is genuine.*

John 16:23-33: *Prayer is central to the Church, her ministry, and the Christian’s own faith and life. “Prayer in Jesus’ name” is prayer that asks for the gifts and help that Jesus promises in the Gospel. If the Church is troubled by persecution and suffering, she is to pray for strength. If she is tempted to unfaithfulness, she is to pray for faithfulness. If you have sinned, pray for forgiveness. If you are tempted by the devil, pray for deliverance. If you are weak in fulfilling the responsibilities of your calling, pray for strength. We have Jesus’ sure and certain promise: “Whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.” Our prayers are heard and they are absolutely answered when they are anchored in God’s Word. Like the disciples before us, our faith, too, often wanes. They scattered and fled from Him, yet they were able to be restored because of His promise of grace to them in the Gospel. The same is true for us. “These things I have spoken to you,” Jesus said, “that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*