

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Tenth Sunday after Trinity
August 24 through August 31, 2025*

Catechesis Notes for Week — “I Am the Lord Your God and Savior! Trust Me!” The first week of a new catechetical year begins another pilgrimage through the Six Chief Parts and Table of Duties from the Small Catechism. During this week we hear the Holy Trinity speak to us in the first two commandments. “Trust Me!” (First Commandment) and “Pray to Me!” (Second Commandment). It is as if He were saying, “I am the only true and living God. I have created You. I have redeemed and sanctified You. I love You with an everlasting love. I have called you by My name—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—in the waters of Holy Baptism. There is no other God and Savior! Trust Me! I will take care of you!” This is the deep meaning of the First Commandment: “You shall have no other gods!” There is only one true and living God who provides for all that we need for our life and salvation. All other things or people that we might trust in have not made us, nor can they save us. **The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace and Daniel cast into the Lions’ Den** showed forth this miracle of faith. In the Second Commandment, “You shall not misuse the name of the Lord Your God,” we are called to pray to the Lord for everything, to always praise Him, and to give thanks to Him, even for the difficulties and hardships of life. Through the things we suffer He calls us to trust in Him and to pray to Him for help. Our Lord demonstrates this in **Jesus’ Prayer in Gethsemane**. In contrast, **Peter Denies His Lord** gives us an example of the swearing that is forbidden under the Second Commandment. Thus the first and second commandments go together. Out of the proper trust of the heart (first commandment) we pray (second commandment), “calling upon His name in every trouble, praying, praising, and giving of thanks.” This week’s verse is the Creed of ancient Israel, the Shema Israel, which means “Hear, O Israel!” What we cannot do by our own reason or strength, God gives by His Word and Spirit. “Hearing” speaks of faith. We confess what is true. There is only one true God. We love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength because He has opened our hearts by His Word to trust in Him above all things.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Theme: God Has Visited and Redeemed His People!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Psalm 92 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on Psalm 92: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	115	117, 118	119:1–24	119:49–72	119:89–112	119:137–152	122, 123	125, 126
Evening	116	120, 121	119:25–48	119:73–88	119:113–136	119:153–176	124	127

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Trinity 10: Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem—Luke 19:41-48 St. Bartholomew, Apostle—John 1:43-51	Proverbs 3:1-8
Monday	The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace—Daniel 3:1-28 (29-30)	1 Peter 1:3-12
Tuesday	Daniel and the Lions’ Den—Daniel 6:1-23 (24)	1 Peter 1:13-21
Wednesday	Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane—Matthew 26:36-46	Isaiah 43:1-3a, 10-13, 25
Thursday	Peter Denies His Lord—Matthew 26:69-75	Isaiah 12:1-6
Friday	Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist: Mark 6:14-29	Revelation 6:9-11
Saturday	Trinity 11: Cain Murders Abel—Genesis 4:1-15	Ephesians 2:1-10

Catechism: Ten Commandments—First and Second Commandments

What is the First Commandment? You shall have no other gods.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.	First Grade +
What is the Second Commandment? You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.	Second Grade +

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

Collect for the Tenth Sunday after Trinity

O God, You declare Your almighty power above all in showing mercy and pity. Mercifully grant us such a measure of Your grace that we may obtain Your gracious promises and be made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for St. Bartholomew, Apostle

Almighty God, Your Son, Jesus, chose Bartholomew to be an apostle to preach the blessed Gospel. Grant that Your Church may love what he believed and preach what he taught; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Collect for the Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist

Almighty God, You gave Your servant John the Baptist to be the forerunner of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in both his preaching of repentance and his innocent death. Grant that we, who have died and risen with Christ in Holy Baptism, may daily repent of our sins, patiently suffer for the sake of the truth, and fearlessly bear witness to His victory over death; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

Sunday: For the joy of the resurrection among us
Monday: For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work
Tuesday: For deliverance against temptation and evil and those struggling with besetting sins
Wednesday: For marriage and family
Thursday: For the Church and her pastors; and for fruitful and salutary use of the Lord’s Supper
Friday: For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the persecuted and oppressed
Saturday: For the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away from Christ

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

Baptismal anniversaries: Lance Carus, Jack Christopherson (8/25), Sarah Bender (8/26), June Brueck (8/27), Michael Ferguson (8/28), Charlie Dhein (8/29), Lindsey Kenyon (8/30).

Wedding anniversaries: Tom and Nancy Landry (8/24), Rev. Gary and Susan Gehlbach (8/29), Kevin and Rachel Ruehle (8/29).

Peace Lutheran Academy: Our teachers, parents, and students as we begin a new academic year.

Military: Morgan Thoni, in the US Navy, beginning a 9-month deployment to the Mediterranean.

The sick: Melissa Brendel undergoing medical testing, Dorothy Behling recovering from an automobile accident.

In cancer treatment: Tracy Espinosa, Laurie Roe, Ken Hinckle, Steven Jahnke, Gary Luderman, Diane Bulawa, and Rev. Luke Boehringer.

Those who Mourn: family and friends of Edward Kappler (Bonnie Westrich’s father and Jennifer Krueger’s grandfather) and Ernie Schott (uncle of Jenny Duessler).

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

Hymn of the Week

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

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Looking forward to the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

August 31, 2025

Hymns: 433, 559, 572, 570, 639, 598

Genesis 4:1-15: Cain’s offering was rejected because the faith of his heart was wrong. He trusted in himself and believed the Lord owed him because of his goodness. Abel’s offering was accepted because the faith of his heart was in the mercy of God. Both offerings were outwardly “the best they had” but one was given with the idolatrous faith of works righteousness and the other as a confession of faith in God’s grace. The Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector is anticipated by the account of Cain and Abel.

Ephesians 2:1-10: This classic passage on salvation by grace alone teaches that man is spiritually dead in trespasses and sins apart from the operation of the Holy Spirit and that even faith in Christ itself is a gift of God’s grace. “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” It is the grace of God that saves us. It is the grace of God that creates faith to trust in Christ. And it is the grace of God that fashions us into Christ’s disciples and enables us to do good works for our neighbor. All depends upon the grace of God in Christ.

Luke 18:9-14: The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector teaches us the difference between “works righteous faith” and faith in the grace of God. The two men who went up to the Temple to pray came at the time of the daily sacrifice. They were both coming to the same liturgy of the Divine Service, but one came with faith in himself and his own works and the other came as a penitent. In the daily sacrifice, the congregation gathered to confess sin and to plead for forgiveness in broken and contrite hearts. Instead, the Pharisee worshiped himself, saying, “God, I thank you that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.” This was no confession of sin. It was a confession of self-righteousness. He not only worshipped himself, but it turned him into a very selfish man. The Tax Collector confessed in shame and contrition, “God be merciful to me, a sinner!” Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others. God deliver us from self-righteous impenitence and give us a truly repentant heart.