

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity  
September 7 through September 14, 2025*

**Catechesis Notes for Week — The Fifth and Sixth Commandments**—In the Second Table of the Law we see especially the gifts of creation that God wishes to protect and through which He brings many blessings to us. The Fifth Commandment, **“You shall not murder,”** teaches us that human life is sacred. After the Flood, God instituted capital punishment for murder precisely because man was made in the image of God (Genesis 9:5-7). By the Fifth Commandment, God wishes to protect human life. Inflicting physical harm upon someone, abortion and euthanasia, as well as hatred and grudge-bearing, are all forms of murder forbidden under the Fifth Commandment. The Sixth Commandment, **“You shall not commit adultery,”** teaches us that marriage and sexuality are gifts of God to be used and enjoyed in the way that God created them. According to God’s Word, marriage is only between one man and one woman for life. The physical attributes of being male or female are gifts of God that are to be used for the most intimate expression of love within the one flesh union of marriage and for the procreation of children. All forms of adultery, homosexuality, transgenderism, and divorce are forbidden under the Sixth Commandments. The sanctity of human life and marriage is taught by Jesus in this week’s Bible Verse. The Fifth and Sixth Commandments not only forbid murder and adultery, but they also teach how love is expressed according to these commandments. We are called to “help and be of service to our neighbor in every physical need” and “to lead a sexually pure (chaste) and decent life in what we say and do,” loving the spouse that God has given us in marriage. The Bible Stories for the week correspond to the Fifth and Sixth Commandments. **Cain murders his brother Abel** because his faith was not in the Lord’s grace but rather centered in his own works and his self-righteous attitude toward them. **The Good Samaritan**, as a picture of our Lord, loves and cares for the one who is His enemy, thereby fulfilling the Law of love. In **Joseph fleeing from adultery**, we see the Spirit of Christ that flees from every temptation to indulge the flesh in those things that God has not given. Even though Joseph did the right thing when he ran from Potiphar’s wife, he suffered for it; nevertheless, the Lord was with him and blessed him through his suffering and self-denial. In **Jesus’ temptation** in the wilderness, He rebukes Satan and conquers his temptations with the only weapon any of us have: the Word of God.

## **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: He Makes the Deaf to Hear and the Mute to Speak!**

### **Invocation**

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

### **Apostles’ Creed**

### **Verse: Mark 10:6-8a**

From the beginning of the creation, God **“made them male and female.”**  
**“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,  
and the two shall become one flesh”;**  
so then they are no longer two, but one flesh.

### **Psalms 146 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.**

**Prayer on Psalm 146:** O Lord Jesus, I will praise You as long as I live, for You made the heavens and the earth, You keep Your promises, You have established justice in the cross and have restored us through Your redeeming work. Grant us the happiness, contentment, and wellbeing that comes through faith in You alone, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	147	148	1, 2	5	8, 9	10	14, 15	18
Evening	146	149, 150	3	4, 6	7	11, 12	13	16, 17

### **Bible Readings for the Week:**

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Trinity 12: Jesus Heals the Deaf Mute—Mark 7:31-37	
Monday	Christian Education: Jesus Blesses the Children—Luke 18:15-17	Deut. 6:4-15
Tuesday	Cain Murders His Brother Abel—Genesis 4:1-12 (13-15)	Romans 12:9-21
Wednesday	The Parable of the Good Samaritan—Luke 10:25-37	Psalms 139:1-18
Thursday	Joseph Flees from Adultery—Genesis 39:1-21 (22-23)	1 Thess. 4:1-8
Friday	Jesus Is Tempted by the Devil—Matthew 4:1-11	Gen. 1:26-28; 2:7, 18-25
Saturday	Trinity 13: 2 Chronicles 28:8-15	Galatians 3:15-22

## Catechism: Ten Commandments—Fifth and Sixth Commandments

What is the Fifth Commandment? <b>You shall not murder.</b>	Preschool +
What does this mean? 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.	First Grade +
What is the Sixth Commandment? <b>You shall not commit adultery.</b>	Preschool +
What does this mean? 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.	Second Grade +

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

### Collect for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and merciful God, by Your gift alone Your faithful people render true and laudable service. Help us steadfastly to live in this life according to Your promises and finally attain Your heavenly glory; 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  
**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:** Scott Perry (9/10), Erin Webster (9/11), Alex Scheler, Joe Schneider (9/12).

**Wedding anniversaries:** Andrew and Erin Webster (9/10), Jeffrey and Amanda DiPuma, William and Grace Palmer (9/12).

**Ordination and Installation:** James Bruss (9/6/2025) Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Matthew in Eau Claire.

**The sick:** Chuck and Jan Finke and Dorothy Behling recovering after auto accidents; Melissa Brendel and Loretta Lampen (mother of Karen Frerking) undergoing medical testing.

**In cancer treatment:** Tracy Espinosa, Laurie Roe, Ken Hinckle, Gary Luderman, Steven Jahnke, Diane Bulawa, Rev. Luke Boehringer, Fred Theilacker (father of Fritz Theilacker).

**Those who mourn:** The family and friends of Sue Jansen, daughter of Bob Schiellack and niece of Rosie Koplting.

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

### Hymn of the Week

### “Draw Us to Thee” (Stanzas 1-3)

701

### Looking forward to the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 14, 2025

Hymns: 701, 683, 852, 865, 555, 692

**2 Chronicles 28:8-15:** Israel shows mercy to her enemies by returning those who had been captured in battle.

**Galatians 3:15-22:** The spiritual function of the Law is to prepare for Christ by creating a need for Him, so that by faith in Christ we might be saved. The Seed of Abraham is Christ who delivers salvation to us by the promise of the Gospel.

**Luke 10:23-37:** The Parable of the Good Samaritan illustrates what it is to love God with all one’s heart and to love the neighbor as oneself. The self-righteousness of the priest and the Levite who believed they had kept the Law caused them to be curved in upon themselves and unconcerned about the wounded man in need. Though they were Jews and had the Law, they did not believe or practice what the Law demanded. The Samaritan who was viewed as the enemy of the Jew is the one who demonstrates what true love is. He cares not for himself, but spares no time, effort, or expense to help the wounded man, even though the wounded Jew would have considered him his enemy. What a wonderful illustration of what Jesus has done for us. He fulfills the Law by loving us more than He loved Himself. Though we rebelled against God and were left for dead on the side of the road, Jesus came to our rescue, bandaged our wounds, brought us to the inn of the Church, and paid all the expenses necessary to bring us back to health. In Jesus we see what love really is, as described by God’s Law.