

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Feast of the Holy Trinity  
May 31 through June 7, 2026*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week—For God So Loved the World** — “That there should be a God who would love the world and not begrudge it some good, is beyond all our ability to reason, comprehend, or understand. I would have wished for the world the fires of hell, and especially, I would do it if I were God, who knows the world inside and out. That is what I would do. But what does God do? Instead of his wrath, which the world has so richly deserved, he loves the world, and in such boundless and incomprehensible measure that he presents his very own Son as a gift to the world, his bitterest enemy... It would have been more than enough for God to wish the world ‘good morning.’ So he goes beyond this and loves the world, the disgraceful offspring. It is just about the most utterly hostile and ill-disposed contradiction. And in truth, that is what the world is: a pigsty of unabashedly evil people, who abuse all God's creation in the most brazen way possible, blaspheme God, and provoke him to his face. These selfsame shameless people God loves. That is a love which transcends all love. This is truly a good God, and his love must be great, incomprehensible fire, greater by far than the fire which Moses saw in the bush, indeed greater by far than the fire of hell. Who would despair, seeing God is so disposed toward the world? It is too high and beyond my ability to elaborate on it, or to draw out the abundant riches that it truly contains.” Martin Luther

## **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: Blessed Be the Holy Trinity; He Has Shown His Mercy to Us.**

### **Invocation**

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

### **Apostles' Creed**

#### **Verse: Matthew 28:18b-20**

All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always even to the end of the age.

#### **Psalms 8 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.**

**Prayer on Psalm 8:** O God, the Creator and Savior of the world, who has made Yourself known in the work of man's redemption as the mystery of the ever adorable Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three in one and one in three, we beseech You, reveal in us the full power of this faith, into which we have been planted by Baptism, that, being born of water and of the Spirit, we may by a life of holiness be formed into Your image here and rise to Your blissful presence hereafter, there to join, with the song of the seraphim, in praising You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	109	112, 113	115	117, 118	119:1-24	119:49-72	119:89-112	119:137-152
Evening	110, 111	114	116	120, 121	119:25-48	119:73-88	119:113-136	119:153-176

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

	<b>Bible Narrative</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>
Sunday	<b>Holy Trinity: The Great Commission—Matthew 28:16-20</b> <b>The Visitation—Luke 1:39-56</b>	
Monday	The Genealogy of Jesus—Matthew 1:1-17	Isaiah 1:16-20
Tuesday	The Baptism of Our Lord—Matthew 3:13-17	Isaiah 2:2-5
Wednesday	The Temptation of Our Lord—Matthew 4:1-11	Isaiah 3:1-11
Thursday	Jesus' Ministry and the Call of the Fishermen—Matthew 4:12-25	Isaiah 4:2-6
Friday	The Sermon on the Mount: The Beatitudes—Matthew 5:1-12	Isaiah 5:1-7
Saturday	Christ's Righteousness Fulfills the Law—Matthew 5:13-20	Isaiah 6:1-13

### **The Catechism: Creed—Third Article**

*What is the Third Article of the Creed?*

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Preschool +

<p><i>What does this mean?</i>  I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.  In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.</p>	First Grade +
<p>In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.  On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.  This is most certainly true.</p>	Second Grade +

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

**Collect for the Feast of the Holy Trinity**

*Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Collect for the Visitation**

*Almighty God, You chose the virgin Mary to be the mother of Your Son and made known through her Your gracious regard for the poor and lowly and despised. Grant that we may receive Your Word in humility and faith, and so be made one with 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:** Olivia Volquardsem (5/31); Glenn Bollmeyer, Olivia Gehlbach (6/2); Michael Christopherson (6/3).  
**Wedding anniversaries:** Jon and Peggy Lundberg (5/31); Doug and Bonnie Westrich (6/1); Lee and Eunice Neujahr, Karl and Maria Stemke; Pete and Brenda Greschner (6/6).  
**The sick:** Jon Bruss and Geri Zaretzke, each hospitalized after a fall; Carol Bender, hospitalized; Jennifer Torkelson and Chuck Finke recovering from cardiac surgery; Jodi Winn (Sharon Murphy’s niece) in rehab after a head injury.  
**In cancer treatment:** Barbara Galis (Nick Galis’ grandmother) undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer; Bob Rothe, Michael Piper (Bob Piper’s brother), Michael Gehl (friend of the Bruss family), Mary O’Flyng (acquaintance of the Rothe family), Tim Francis (brother of Cheri LaFore), Loretta Lampen, Tracy Espinosa, Ken Hinckle, Diane Bulawa, and Rev. Luke Boehringer.  
**Those in hospice care:** Sid Franklin

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

**Hymn of the Week** **“Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest”** **498**

**Looking forward to the Second Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 5)** **June 7, 2026**

**Hymns: 555, 689, 557, 566, 617 (1-2) 617 (3)**

**Hosea 5:15-6:6:** Hosea teaches us that God’s sharp rebuke of the Law has, as its purpose, the intention to save and bring us to God’s undeserved forgiveness and love. “Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us.”

**Romans 4:13-25:** Abraham believed the promise of the Gospel and he was declared righteous. St. Paul extolls the power of God’s promises to save, and the teaching that we are justified or declared righteous by faith in God’s promises alone.

**Matthew 9:9-13:** “Follow Me!” is Jesus’ call to every sinner. “Follow Me!” is the call to repentance. “Follow Me!” means the forsaking of self. “Follow Me!” means clinging to Christ in the struggle with sin, in the need for forgiveness, and in the strength to live as a forgiven sinner. In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus calls Matthew the Tax Collector to be His disciple. It was shocking to the Pharisees. Tax Collectors were despised because of their allegiance to Rome and because they often collected more than the required tax revenue from the defenseless poor. Jesus’ call to Matthew is an indication that salvation is a gift given and not a reward for works. Yet Jesus’ call still took sin very seriously. One could not “follow Jesus” and continue in the lifestyle of a crooked Tax Collector. But it was the call of Jesus itself that turned Matthew around and brought Him to repentance. Jesus did not merely preach the law and show His listeners the seriousness of sin, He also preached the Gospel and God’s earnest desire to save even the worst of sinners. When asked, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” Jesus replied, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” At the heart of Jesus’ words is the great truth that God’s grace and mercy is what motivated Jesus. More than anything else, He desired to rescue sinners from destruction and restore their lives to God.