

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the week of the Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 2, 2021 through May 9, 2021

Catechesis Notes for the Week— Nothing Separates us from God’s Love—“I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39)

“The Apostle Paul confesses the confidence of faith in the suffering and death of Jesus by which God’s love is revealed to us. Since God loved us enough that He did not spare His own Son but delivered Him up to the death of the cross for our salvation (Romans 8:32), we know that God works in all things for our good (Romans 8:28) and that no enemy of faith or anything in all of creation has the power to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Paul confesses the truth that, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord who loves us. No angelic being or unseen principality or power in the universe is greater than the power of God’s love in Christ. There is no persecution, suffering, or hardship that we are now facing (or will face in the future) that is able to overpower God’s love for us in the Gospel. There is nothing in the heights above or in any other created thing that is able to separate us from God’s love in Christ. God’s love in Christ, which moved the Father to offer His Son and which moved the Son to die for us, is the clearest expression of God’s will for us. In the confidence of God’s loving will for us and for our salvation we pray: **Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**”—Excerpted from Lutheran Catechesis, Catechist Edition (Used by permission)

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.

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse of the week: Psalm 23

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”

Psalm 150 and/or the appointed daily psalms as listed below

Prayer on the Psalm: 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	60, 61	65	66	68	71	73	75, 76	78
Evening	62	63, 64	67, 70	69	72	74	77	79

The Catechism: The Lord’s Prayer and The Ninth and Tenth Commandments

<p>What is the Lord’s Prayer?</p> <p>Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.</p>	Preschool +
<p>What is the Ninth Commandment?</p> <p>You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.</p> <p>What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor’s inheritance or house, or get them in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.</p>	First Grade +
<p>What is the Tenth Commandment?</p> <p>You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.</p> <p>What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor’s wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.</p>	Preschool +
	First Grade +

Readings for the Week of the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	"I Am the Vine"—John 15:1-8	Lev. 20:1-16, 22-27	Luke 11:37-54
Monday	David Kills Goliath – 1 Samuel 17:32, 37-54	Lev. 21:1-24	Luke 12:1-12
Tuesday	Saul Resents David – 1 Samuel 17:55-18:16	Lev. 23:1-22	Luke 12:13-34
Wednesday	David Marries Michal – 1 Samuel 18:17-29	Lev. 23:23-44	Luke 12:35-53
Thursday	Jesus Eats Breakfast by the Sea of Tiberias—John 21:1-14	Lev. 24:1-23	Luke 12:54-13:17
Friday	Jesus Restores Peter—John 21:15-25	Lev. 26:1-20	Luke 13:18-35
Saturday	Catch Up on Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday's Readings	Lev. 26:21-33, 39-44	Luke 14:1-24

Prayers: Collect for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Victory in Christ

Collect for the week of the Fourth Sunday of Easter:

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

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray 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:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray 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:** *Pray 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 sacraments of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray 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:** *Pray 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 at Victory in Christ this Week

Healing

Herbert Eugene Safford, Linda Neagle, Debbie Byrd, Bobbie Sherrod, Denny Willis, Al Culberson, Barbara Cole, Suzanne Richardson, Dante Pelligrino, Rachel Moreland, Tina Sawall, Peg Munson, Diane Goains, Richard Schroeder, Debbie Drovwall, Gordon Munson, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

Strength

The Rice Family and the King Family

Our Shut-ins

Employment

Peace and Comfort

Expectant Mothers

Military and Over Seas

Kyle Rohloff

College Students

Gabrielle Funke, Hailey Richardson, Jared Rohloff, Logan Rohloff, Ben Schielke, Jacob Schielke, Gina Visingardi

Seminarian

John Schober

Blessings

Mission / Ministries

Our Academy and the missions we support

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

Hymn of Week

"Our Father, Thou in Heaven Above"

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