

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
July 5, 2020 through July 12, 2020*

Catechesis Notes for the Week—Table of Duties— To Widows and Everyone—When someone loses a spouse, what should they do? Whenever we lose any of God’s good gifts, the devil tempts us to fill the void with other things that not only can’t satisfy, but which may actually be sinful and a sign of mistrust of God. This is what the Scripture refers to as “living for pleasure.” Instead, in the face of losses we are called to move even closer to Christ and His Word, putting our hope and confidence in the Lord who will fill the void of our lives with Himself. Attendance at Divine Service, catechesis, and the mutual conversation and consolation of Christian brothers and sisters are critically important. This leads us to the last section of the Table of Duties: To Everyone: It is our common faith in Christ and the grace of God that unites us in love for one another, even as Christ loved us. The source of true fulfillment is not in living for one’s self, but in giving of ourselves to one another out of our love for Christ.

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: Romans 8:13-14

If you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Psalm 145 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	32	33	35	37	40	42, 43	45	48, 49
Evening	31	34	36	38	39, 41	44	46, 47	50

The Catechism: The Table of Duties—To Widows and To Everyone

What does God's Word say to Widows? The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. 1 Timothy 5:5	Third Grade
But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. 1 Timothy 5:6	Fourth Grade +
What does God's Word say to Everyone? The commandments ... are summed up in this one rule: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Romans 13:9	First Grade +
I urge ... that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone. 1 Timothy 2:1	Second Grade +

Readings for the week of the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	“Come to Me all You who labor”—Matthew 11:25-30	Josh. 23:1-16	Acts 12:1-25
Monday	Parables of the Kingdom—Matthew 13:36-46	Josh. 24:1-31	Acts 13:1-12
Tuesday	The Parable of the Dragnet—Matthew 13:47-58	Judg. 2:6-23	Acts 13:13-41
Wednesday	John the Baptist Is Beheaded—Matthew 14:1-13	Judg. 3:7-31	Acts 13:42-52
Thursday	The Feeding of the 5,000—Matthew 14:14-21	Judg. 4:1-24	Acts 14:1-18
Friday	Jesus Walks on the Water—Matthew 14:22-36	Judg. 6:1-24	Acts 14:19-15:5
Saturday	Out of Man’s Heart Proceed Evil Thoughts—Matthew 15:1-20	Judg. 6:25-40	Acts 15:6-21

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

Collect for the week of the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; 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

Debbie Drovwall, Joe Schober, Tim Finstad, Gordon Munson, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

Strength

Our Shut-ins

Mary Lou Beck, Shirley Noah, Mary Noah, Joe Withers

Employment

Peace and Comfort

Expectant Mothers

Mallory Crutcher, Katherine Grisham

Military and Over Seas

William Funke, Kevin Riebel, Kyle Rohloff, Cody Yenter and his crew, who were deployed

College Students

Gabrielle Funke, Hailey Richardson, Alina Riebel, Jared Rohloff, Logan Rohloff, Jacob Schielke, John Schober, Gina Visingardi

Safe Travel

The Schielke Family and all others who are travelling

Blessings

Mission / Ministries

Our Academy and the missions we support

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

Hymn of Week

"Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"

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