

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2020 through September 27, 2020*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Covetousness and Contentment—The Ninth and Tenth Commandments both speak of covetousness. Covetousness is the desire of our hearts that insists upon having those things that God has not given to us. Many of the things that we might desire are very good things indeed. “Food, drink, clothing, shoes ... a devout husband or wife, devout children,” etc. are all good things and good gifts from God. Sometimes, however, through our own sin or through the Lord’s gracious providence we are not allowed to have certain good things that we might otherwise desire and that might make life easier. Desires for good things become covetous and idolatrous whenever we won’t take no for an answer and whenever we insist that we must have this or that in order to be happy and content. At the center of the Christian faith, which trusts Christ for salvation, is learning to be satisfied with Him—with His love, with His forgiveness, with His Word, with everything that He is as our Savior and God. True contentment actually comes not from getting what we want and what we believe we must have but from the faith that rests in Christ and is content with Him especially under the cross of suffering and affliction. When we have Christ and His love as our one thing needful, then His Word transforms our lives turning us outside of ourselves and our own desires to the sacrifices of love for others.

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 10:17

“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”

Psalm 27 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	75, 76	78	80	82, 84	85	88	89	91
Evening	77	79	81	83	86	87	90	93

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments—The Ninth and Tenth Commandments

<p><i>What is the Ninth Commandment?</i></p> <p>You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.</p>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i></p> <p>We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor’s inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.</p>	Second Grade +
<p><i>What is the Tenth Commandment?</i></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>	Preschool +
<p><i>What does this mean?</i></p> <p>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>	Second Grade +

Readings for the week of the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard—Matthew 20:1-16	Neh. 4:7-23	1 Tim. 3:1-16
Monday	The Priestly Blessing – Numbers 6:22-27	Neh. 5:1-16; 6:1-9, 15-16	1 Tim. 4:1-16
Tuesday	The Second Passover – Numbers 9:1-14	Neh. 7:1-4; 8:1-18	1 Tim. 5:1-16
Wednesday	A Pillar of Cloud by Day and a Pillar of Fire by Night – Numbers 9:15-23	Neh. 9:1-21	1 Tim. 5:17-6:2
Thursday	Israel Departs from Sinai – Numbers 10:11-14a, 29-36	Neh. 9:22-38	1 Tim. 6:3-21
Friday	The People of Israel Complain against the Lord – Numbers 11:1-17	Mal. 1:1-14	Matt. 3:1-17
Saturday	Catch Up on Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Mal. 2:1-3:5	Matt. 4:1-11

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

Collect for the week of the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; 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

Richard Schroeder, Rev. Barry Schwiesow, Jack Teague, Joe Withers, Jacob Brewer, Orrion McJimsey, Debbie Drovwall, Joe Schober, Gordon Munson, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

Strength

Our Shut-ins

Joe Withers

Employment

Peace and Comfort

Expectant Mothers

Mallory Crutcher, Katherine Grisham

Military and Over Seas

Kyle Rohloff

College Students

Gabrielle Funke, Hailey Richardson, Alina Riebel, Jared Rohloff, Logan Rohloff, Ben Schielke, Esther 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

"Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

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