

# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*The Twentieth week of Pentecost*

*October 1-7, 2023*

**Catechetical Notes for the week:** *The fifth commandment teaches us that life is not found in breathing air, but only in Christ. Those who believe are alive. Those who do not believe are dead. We help and support one another in every bodily need so they may receive this life from Christ while on earth. We defend, protect, and care for all. We are selfless and loving to all. We also love, cherish, and take care of our own bodies. The fifth commandment shows us that we have murdered not with hands, but with heart and lips. We've neglected those in need, been angry, sought vengeance, insulted and verbally abused others. We've also abused and complained about our bodies. It calls us to repentance and faith in Christ who gave His life so we may have lasting life with Him on earth and in heaven. The sixth commandment teaches us that Christ is our Bridegroom who gives Himself completely to us in a blessed union. Earthly marriage is an icon of Christ and His Church. Husbands are to love and give themselves fully to their wives. Wives are to submit and receive in love all their husbands give. All are to speak highly of this estate, honor and respect their spouse and the union of others. Words and actions are to be pure and holy. The sixth commandment shows us that we've neglected our spouse, used them for selfish gain, spoken inappropriately, and let our eyes and thoughts wander. We've talked down our spouse to others, withheld our love, and refused to forgive. It calls us to repentance and faith in Christ, our perfect Bridegroom, who forgives us, loves us, cherishes us and gives us everything for a blessed, eternal union with Him in heaven.*

**Theme: The Lord's forgiveness heals us.**

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

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**HYMN:** Praise the Almighty, My Soul, Adore Him

**BIBLE VERSE:** Mark 10:6-8a

At the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.'

<i>What is the fifth commandment?</i> You shall not murder.	Preschool+
<i>What does this mean?</i> 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 bodily need.	1st Grade+
<i>What is the sixth commandment?</i> You shall not commit adultery.	Preschool+
<i>What does this mean?</i> 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.	2nd Grade+

<b>DAILY READING</b>		<i>The Story Bible</i> page
Monday	Genesis 4	33
Tuesday	Luke 10:25-37	364
Wednesday	Joshua 2	134
Thursday	Genesis 2:18-25	26
Friday	Genesis 39:1-21	85
Saturday	Isaiah 55:1-9; Ephesians 5:15-21; Matthew 22:1-14	(Mt 4-5) 352

## **PRAYER**

Pray the Catechism: *(The catechetical notes are meant to assist you in this.)*

### **Example:**

*Repeat the 5th commandment*

*A teaching: Dear Father, in the 5th commandment You teach me not to harm someone's body or mind or my own, but to love them and help them as I am able. You have given physical life to all so that they may believe in You and worship You in all they do.*

*A thanksgiving: I thank You for giving me physical life, a healthy body and mind and all else that keeps my body safe and healthy. I thank You for friends and family to share my life with. I thank You for giving me lasting life in Jesus.*

*A confession: I confess and ask for grace that I have disliked others, hit others, said hurtful things, wished to change my body, not taken care of my body, and not helped others when able.*

*A prayer: I ask You for help in keepings this commandment all my days, and help me to love my body and to always help others. Amen.*

Personal prayers: *(suggestions listed below)*

**Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word.*

**Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for your calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for government; and for peace.*

**Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; and for those struggling with besetting sins.*

**Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; for parents who must rear their children alone; and for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

**Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; and for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.*

**Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

**Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the sick and dying; for the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; and for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

## Prayer for Pentecost 20

O Almighty and most merciful God: of Your bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech You, from all things that may hurt us; that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things which You desire, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Luther's Morning/Evening Prayer

**Morning:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

**Evening:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

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.