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# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

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*The Week of the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 3-11, 2016*

## 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. If able, the head of the home should take the role of "Leader" (L) and the family the role of "Group" (G). The whole family should try to learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

**Theme: Bear Your Cross and Be Jesus' Disciple!**

**Catechesis Notes for the Week—Labor Day**—As we pray this week during our country's observance of Labor Day, we are reminded that as Christians we see our life's work as the means by which we serve our neighbor in love. The work that God has called us to is not principally for our own benefit, but for the benefit of our neighbor. God loves, cares for, provides and helps others through the service of Christians who live faithfully in their vocations. The strength to be faithful in our daily work comes from the Lord's forgiving Word, and by our work for others we reflect and confess our Savior whose work brought the gift of salvation to all people.

### INVOCATION

The sign of the cross ✙ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.<sup>1</sup>

**L** In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✙, and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

### APOSTLES' CREED

### VERSE

*Deuteronomy 6:6,7*

**G** "These words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up."

### DAILY PSALM

The leader may read the appointed Psalm for the day. If applicable, members of the family may take turns reading the Psalm for the Day.

|         | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|---------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| Morning | 78     | 80      | 82,84     | 85       | 87     | 89       | 91     |
| Evening | 79     | 81      | 83        | 86       | 88     | 90       | 93     |

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<sup>1</sup> The name of the Triune God and the sign of the cross reminds worshipers of their baptisms. Martin Luther wrote in his Small Catechism, "In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross and say, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'"



## PSALM PRAYER

**L** O Lord Jesus, You are the blessed Man. You did not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, nor did you stand in the path of sinners. You delighted in the Word of Your Father, and for us and for our salvation You honored Your heavenly father by laying down Your life for us. Implant in us a love for Your precious Gospel that we might delight in Your Word and honor our fathers and mothers as You have honored us. Forgive our sins, declare us righteous, and bring forth the fruits of faith in our lives, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## THE CATECHISM: THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

### Third & Fourth Commandments

|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <p><b>L</b> What is the Third Commandment?</p> <p><b>C</b> Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy.</p>   | Preschool +                    |
| <p><b>L</b> What does this mean?</p> <p><b>C</b> We should fear and love God that we do not despise preaching and his Word, but regard it as holy and gladly hear and learn it.</p>   | First Grade +                  |
| <p><b>Prayers on the Third Commandment:</b></p> <p>Heavenly Father, we are to make every day holy by hearing, studying, and meditating upon Your Word. Forgive us our sins against the Third Commandment. Strengthen us by Your Word and Spirit so that we do not despise preaching and Your Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it throughout our lifetime; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.</p> <p>Heavenly Father, in the Third Commandment You teach us that Your Word makes our lives and the day of worship holy. Your Word creates repentance and faith in Christ in our hearts. Your Word gives us true help, comfort, peace, and strength. Your Word brings Jesus to us with all the blessings of His salvation. Thank You for the rest and peace Your Word gives. For Jesus' sake, forgive us for despising preaching and Your Word. Grant us to hold Your Word sacred and to gladly hear and learn it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</p>   |                                |
| <p><b>L</b> What is the Fourth Commandment?</p> <p><b>C</b> Honor your father and mother, [that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.</p>  | Preschool +<br>[First Grade +] |
| <p><b>L</b> What does this mean?</p> <p><b>C</b> We should fear and love God that we do not dishonor or anger our parents and others in authority, but honor, serve, and obey them, and give them love and respect.</p>   | Second Grade +                 |
| <p><b>Prayers on the Second Commandment:</b></p> <p>Heavenly Father forgive us for not honoring our parents. Strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</p> <p>Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Fourth Commandment you teach us that our parents are Your gifts to us. Through them You gave us life and through them You care for us and provide us with all that we need. Thank You for our father and mother. Forgive them when they sin and strengthen them with Your grace to be faithful parents. Forgive us for every sin of disobedience, disrespect, and dishonor shown to our parents and all those in authority over us. By Your grace, help us truly to honor our parents, especially when they fail, and to always serve and obey, love and cherish them according to Your Word and for Jesus' sake; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</p> |                                |

## DAILY READINGS

*In 2016, we will be working through a Harmony of the Four Gospels, following Jesus' birth, life, and death chronologically as the Gospels present it.*

| Bible Stories for the Family |   |  | Through the Bible in Two Years |
|------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>                | Jesus' washing of the disciples' feet                         | Matthew 26:20; Mark 14:17; Luke 22:14-16, 24-30; John 13:1-20      | Jude                           |
| <b>Tuesday</b>               | Jesus' final appeal to Judas                                  | Matthew 26:21-25; Mark 14:18-21; John 13:21-30                     | Revelation 1                   |
| <b>Wednesday</b>             | Institution of the Lord's Supper                              | Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:17-20; John 13:31,32      | Revelation 2                   |
| <b>Thursday</b>              | First Lesson for the 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  | Exodus 32:7-14   | Revelation 3                   |
| <b>Friday</b>                | Second Lesson for the 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost | 1 Timothy 1:12-17  | Revelation 4                   |
| <b>Saturday</b>              | Gospel for the 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost        | Luke 15:1-10   | Revelation 5                   |
| <b>Sunday</b>                | Jesus' farewell discourse in the upper room                   | Matthew 26:1-35; Mark: 14:27-31; Luke 22:31-38<br>John 13:33-14:31 | Revelation 6                   |

## PRAYERS

### *Prayer for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost:*

**L** O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

### *Daily Themes for Prayer*

*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 sacrament 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.*

*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.

### ***In Our Prayers this Week***

Sydney Buck, as she celebrates her birthday this week, that the Lord continue to shower blessings upon her in another year of his favor and grace.

Clark Meyer, as he remembers his baptism this week, that he be comforted by his holy bath, and that he rejoice in the knowledge that he is a child of God and heir of heaven through these precious waters.

Les & Jackie Adelung, as they celebrate their wedding anniversary this week, that the Lord continue to watch

over them and bless them, and that the love of God for them continue to shine brightly in their love for each other.

Bryce Scherling, who continues to be hospitalized, that the Lord continue to watch over and protect him and his health, that the Lord guide the hands and work of the surgeons, doctors, nurses and other caregivers, and that the Lord give both he and his wife, Tanya, a measure of his patience and perseverance as they encounter another trying time in their lives.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**G** 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.

### **LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER**

#### ***Morning***

**G** In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✝), and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.<sup>2</sup>

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

#### ***Evening***

**G** In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✝), and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.<sup>2</sup>

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

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<sup>2</sup> Luther, in his *Small Catechism*, encourages Christians who pray the Morning and Evening prayers: "In the morning when you get up and in the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross over your head and heart and say, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✝), and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.'"

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## Jesus Sinners Does Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; Oh, may all this  
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich  
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray Are not by the  
 4 Come, O sin - ners, one and all, Come, ac - cept his  
 5 I, a sin - ner, come to you With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live  
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;  
 Lord for - sak - en; Wea - ry souls who lost their way  
 in - vi - ta - tion. Come, o - bey his gra - cious call;  
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



And from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope  
 Here their ills have per - fect heal - ing Who with hum -  
 Are by Christ, the shep - herd, tak - en In his arms  
 Come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly in  
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words



for all who grieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 ble hearts be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 that they may live— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 these words be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
 my soul re - ceive— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

6 Oh, how blest it is to know,  
 Were as scarlet my transgression,  
 It shall be as white as snow  
 By your blood and bitter passion,  
 For these words I do believe—  
 Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive.  
 Even I have been forgiven.  
 And when I this earth must leave,  
 I shall find an open heaven.  
 Dying, still to him I cleave—  
 Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) *Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.