
THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

*The Week of the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 26-October 2, 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: The Righteousness of Christ Alone Is Our Salvation!

Catechesis Notes for the Week— The Ninth and Tenth Commandments—This week's Bible Passage is the Lord's call to: **"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness..."** As we meditate upon the Ninth and Tenth Commandments this week, which forbid covetousness (the idolatrous desire of the heart), we are called to DESIRE and YEARN for Christ and His righteousness above all things. Jesus' words are a call to faith in Him. It is as if He were saying, "I am your God and Savior! I have taken your sin and punishment upon Myself. I have died for you upon the cross. My blood cleanses you from all sin. I forgive you all your sin on account of My death for you. My righteousness covers you. I am the source of your life and salvation. If you have Me by faith, then you will have all things that you need because I have redeemed and saved you and I will never abandon you. All that you need I will surely give you." "Therefore," as Jesus' words go on to say, "Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." The sin of covetousness arises out of the rebellious, unbelieving heart that does not believe that Jesus and His righteousness are sufficient to supply us with all that we need and that He, Himself, is the greatest joy and delight of our hearts. Therefore, covetousness is not merely the desiring of wrong things or good things that we shouldn't have, but more importantly, it is the belief that Christ is not enough for us. The only thing any of us really lack is Christ and His righteousness, but the wonder of the Gospel is that the One whom we lack—the only Good One—actually gives Himself to us as a free gift of His grace that we might live in Him.

INVOCATION

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

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

G Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

VERSE

Matthew 6:33,34

G Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

¹ 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.'"



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	119:89-112	119:137-152	122,123	125,126	128,129	131,132	135
Evening	119:113-136	119:153-176	124	127	130	133,134	136

PSALM PRAYER

L O Lord, teach us not to put our faith in earthly rulers, but to trust in You alone as the only source of life and salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

THE CATECHISM: THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Ninth & Tenth Commandments

L What is the Ninth Commandment?	<i>Preschool +</i>
C You shall not covet your neighbor's house..	
L What does this mean?	<i>First Grade +</i>
C We should fear and love God that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or obtain it by a show of right, but do all we can to help him keep it.	
<p>Prayers on the Ninth Commandment:</p> <p><i>Gracious Lord, forgive us for coveting the things You have not given us and strengthen our faith in Jesus 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; in Jesus' name. Amen.</i></p> <p><i>Most merciful God and Father, You teach us in the Ninth Commandment that we should not make an idol out of the things that belong to others, but that we should help and be of service to our neighbor in keeping what belongs to him. You have called us in love to look out for and protect all the temporal gifts that belong to others. For Jesus' sake, forgive us for every form of covetous desire and envy, for insisting upon having things that you have not given us, for being preoccupied with finding ways to get more and more for ourselves, and for making plans to obtain things from others by claiming that we have a right to them and they do not. Guard the thoughts and desires of our hearts. Rescue us from every form of greed and selfishness. Teach us to love our neighbor by being of service to him in protecting what You have given him; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</i></p>	
L What is the Tenth Commandment?	<i>Preschool +</i>
C You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, workers, animals, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.	
L What does this mean?	<i>Second Grade +</i>
C We should fear and love God that we do not force or entice away our neighbor's spouse, workers, or animals, but urge them to stay and do their duty.	

Prayers on the Tenth Commandment:

Gracious Lord forgive us for coveting a spouse, worker, or relationship with someone that You have not given us and strengthen our faith in Jesus 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; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Most merciful God and Father, in the Tenth Commandment You teach us that our God-given relationships with others are sacred and that they are to be honored and protected. For Jesus' sake, forgive us for coveting relationships with others that You have not given us, for every form of lust and self-centered desire, for wanting another person's spouse, for making a god out of people, for loving others more than we love You, and for trying to obtain the loyalty and affection of others that rightly belongs to our neighbor. Help us to be content with the relationships that You have given us. Grant us the gift of your grace and mercy in Jesus, so that in every way we encourage, support, and help our neighbors to maintain their God-given relationships in marriage, family, and the workplace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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
Monday	Peter's Denial of Christ: The Second	Matthew 26:71b-72; Mark 14:69-70a; Luke 22:58; John 18:25	Revelation 21
Tuesday	Peter's Denial of Christ: The Third	Matthew 26:73-75; Mark 14:70b-72; Luke 22:59-62; John 28:26-27	Revelation 22
Wednesday	Christ's formal condemnation	Matthew 27:1-2; Mark 15:1; Luke 22:66-23:1; John 18:28a	Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creed
Thursday	First Lesson for the 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	Habakkuk 1:1-3, 2:1-4	Luther's Small Catechism [SC]: Preface
Friday	Second Lesson for the 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	2 Timothy 1:3-14	SC 1-3
Saturday	Gospel for the 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	Luke 17:1-10	SC 4-6
Sunday	Judas' suicide	Matthew 27:3-10	SC Prayers – Table of Duties

THIS WEEK WE BEGIN A DAILY READING OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING A COPY OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS, SPEAK TO PASTOR SEELOW.

PRAYERS

Prayer for the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

L O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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

Rachel Carpenter and Bryce Scherling, as they celebrate their birthdays this week, that the Lord continue to shower blessings upon them in another year of His favor and grace.

Dalton Pasbrig, as he celebrates his baptism this week, that the Lord continue to bless and keep him and that He strengthen him as he remembers the promises made to him at his baptism.

Donna Haas, on the anniversary of her confirmation, that she continue to treasure the wealth she has in the Lord

and that he continue to bless her as she strives to follow Him.

Delores Adelung, as she recovers from surgery, that the Lord grant her healing and relief, and thankfulness for the success of the surgeons and nurses, and that he continue to strengthen her every day in body and soul.

Isaiah Schaser, who was hospitalized this week, that the Lord watch over him and protect him, that he guide the medical means necessary to bring about healing and relief, and that He keep him in her baptismal grace everyday.

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.²

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.²

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY FOR PENTECOST 20

Come, Oh, Come, Life-Giving Spirit | CW 181

PENTECOST

181 Come, Oh, Come, Life-Giving Spirit

1 Come, oh, come, life - giv - ing Spir - it, God from all e -
2 Show us, Lord, the path of bless - ing; When we tres - pass
3 With our spir - it, Lord, bear wit - ness That we are the
4 Prompt us, Lord, to come be - fore him With a child - like
5 Grant our hearts in full - est mea - sure Wis - dom, coun - sel,
ter - ni - ty! May your pow - er nev - er fail us;
on our way, Cast, O Lord, our sins be - hind you
saints of God Who re - ly up - on him sole - ly
heart to pray; Sigh for us, O Ho - ly Spir - it,
pur - i - ty, That we al - ways strive to please you,
Dwell with - in us con - stant - ly. Then shall truth and
And be with us day by day. Should we stray, O
When we're chas - tened by the rod; For we know, as
Work - ing for you will - ing - ly. Then our prayer is
the gos - pel
life and light Ban - ish all the gloom of night.
Lord, re - call; Work re - pent - ance when we fall.
chil - dren should, That the cross is for our good.
not in vain, And our faith new strength shall gain.
spread and grow, Bring - ing Sa - tan's o - ver - throw.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59, abr.; tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96, alt.
Tune: KOMM, O KOMM, DU GEIST DES LEBENS (87 87 77) *Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.

² 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.'"