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# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

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*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*April 26 – May 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: Your Sorrow Will Be Turned to Joy!**

### 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

*Psalm 118:8*

**G** I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### 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.*

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Morning	40	42,43	45	48,49	51	54,56	59
Evening	39,41	44	46,47	50	52,53	55	57,58

### PSALM PRAYER

**L** O blessed Holy Trinity, You are the eternal God of salvation and the maker and preserver of all things in heaven and on earth. Teach us to worship You with true and fervent faith that depends upon Your grace and that gives all honor and glory to You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

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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.'"



<p><b>L</b> What does God’s Word say to Husbands?</p>	<p><i>First Grade + 1 Peter 3:7</i></p>
<p><b>G</b> Husbands, be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.</p>	
<p><b>G</b> Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.</p>	<p><i>Kindergarten+ Colossians 3:19</i></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>Tuesday</b>	Jesus and the Twelve’s return to Galilee Matthew 14:34-36; Mark 6:53-56; John 6:21b	Acts 24-25
<b>Wednesday</b>	The Bread of Life John 6:22-71	Acts 26
<b>Thursday</b>	First Lesson for the Minor Festival of St. Philip and St. James, Apostles Isaiah 30:18-21	Acts 27-28
<b>Friday</b>	Second Lesson for the Minor Festival of St. Philip and St. James, Apostles 2 Corinthians 4:1-6	Romans 1-2
<b>Saturday</b>	Gospel for the Minor Festival of St. Philip and St. James, Apostles John 14:8-14	Romans 3-4
<b>Sunday</b>	Conflict with the Pharisees Matthew 15:1-20; Mark 7:1-23	Romans 5
<b>Monday</b>	A Syrophenician woman’s faith Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30	Romans 6

PRAYERS

*Prayer for the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter:*

**L** Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

*Prayer for Husbands*

**L** O Lord Jesus, by Your Word and Spirit, fashion the men of Your Church into husbands made in Your image, who love their wives and sacrifice themselves for them, even as You gave Yourself for us, Your bride the Church. Teach them to respect their wives and to treat them with tenderness, compassion, and

loving kindness. Deliver them from all pride and arrogance so that they do not take advantage of their wives, but honor them as joint heirs of the gracious gift of life, in Your holy name we pray.

**G** Amen.

### *Daily Themes for Prayer*

- Tuesday: For the Church in our nation and throughout the world; for the congregations, clergy, laity, officers, teachers and students of theology of our synod; for church bodies of our fellowship around the globe; for organizations for men's, women's, and youth work. For children of the Church; for Christian education; for parish schools; for teachers and assistants.*
- Wednesday: For families, children, relatives, and friends; for Christian marriages; for the nurture of children in the gospel. For young people and young people's work in the church. For single people and their labor in the Lord. For households; for the men and women of the congregation.*
- Thursday: For our country and its people; for repentance, faith, love, honesty, and obedience to law; for unity, justice, and peace; for those in authority: the president, the congress, the governor, city officials, and all those who make and administer our laws; for our armed forces at home and abroad; for good citizenship. For the commerce, industry, and agriculture in our land. For all useful arts; for the right use of science and technology. For enemies; for the indifferent; for the lapsed.*
- Friday: For the suffering; for the poor; for the hungry and cold; for refugees; for prisoners; for the oppressed; for the mentally ill; for the despairing. For social workers; for chaplains; for doctors and nurses; for hospitals and other relief agencies. For those in the congregation who suffer: the aged, the sick, the dying, the bereaved, and the lonely.*
- Saturday: For the services tomorrow: for worshipers, listeners, and communicants. For other congregations, their services and ministers. Remembrance of the departed; preparation of the Church for the coming of Christ; remembrance of the brevity of life and of judgment to come; prayer for a blessed death.*
- Sunday: For the holy Christian Church and the congregation; that the blessing of worship and preaching may continue through the week; for the practice of family worship; for the baptized and communicants; for those absent from worship.*
- Monday: For the missions of the Church; for the proclamation of the gospel in all the world; for new and established churches; for organizations that promote and support missions and missionaries; for the raising up of leaders at home and abroad; for zeal in missions at home and open doors throughout the world; for oneness in Spirit and brotherly love. For fellow workers in the parish: Sunday school and Lutheran elementary school teachers, altar guild, musicians, elders, deaconesses, trustees, elected officers, leaders, and volunteers of every kind in the congregation. For one's own vocation and daily work; for the unemployed.*

### *In Our Prayers this Week*

*Phil Brei, Kaysie Haas, Sophie Lange, and Emily Haas, as they celebrate their birthdays, that the Lord grant to them another year of blessing and grace.*

*Jaxon Pasbrig, as he and his family remember his baptism this week, that they treasure the grace shown to him when he was made a child of God through those precious waters.*

*Matthew Brei, Barb Stutz, and Pam Riggins, as they celebrate the anniversary of their confirmation, that they continue to remember their vows and that the Lord hold them faithfully in his end to the end.*

*Delores Adelung, as she undergoes a medical procedure this week, that the Lord guide the hands of those caring for her and that he grant her a quick and relatively painless recovery.*

*Bryce Scherling, for peace and well-being, as he begins the process of dialysis this week.*

*A certain friend of the Church, who is struggling with faith, that this individual may be comforted by the promises of God's Word, and that he or she may find peace in the grace shown to them in Baptism.*

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>1</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.

HYMN FOR THE FESTIVAL OF ST. PHILIP AND ST. JAMES

By All Your Saints Still Striving | CW 552

SAINTS AND MARTYRS

552 By All Your Saints Still Striving

St. Philip and St. James

1 By all your saints still For ing,  
2 We praise you, Lord, let us praise the Lord, and Jew, the Son of God the King of kings, and Jesus Christ, your dear Son, who 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.

Text: Horatio B. Nelson, 1823-1913, st. 1-4, 6-27, alt.; Hartlyn J. Kuschel, b. 1945, st. 5. St. 1-4, 6-27. From *The Hymnal 1982*. © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Church Publishing Inc., New York, NY.  
St. 5 © 1993 Hartlyn J. Kuschel. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Tune: KUORJANE (76 76 D), Finnish folk tune, c. 19th century.

<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.'"