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# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

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*The Festival of Pentecost*

*May 10-16, 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 Word of God Brings Us into Fellowship with the Holy Trinity***

### 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

*Proverbs 3:5-6*

**G** **Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."**

### 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	78	80	82,84	85	88	89	91
Evening	79	81	83	86	87	90	93

### PSALM PRAYER

**L** Heavenly Father, give to Your Church the unity of faith in Your Son. Preserve us in the purity of Christian truth, that we might share in an eternal fellowship with You and our brothers and sisters in the Christian confession, and give a bold and uncompromising witness to Christ before the world, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the 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 Parents?</p> <p><b>G</b> <b>Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.</b></p>	<p><i>First Grade +</i> Ephesians 6:4</p>
<p><b>G</b> <b>Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.</b></p>	<p><i>Second Grade +</i> Colossians 3:21</p>
<p><b>L</b> What does God’s Word say to Children?</p> <p><b>G</b> <b>Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.</b></p>	<p><i>Kindergarten+</i> Ephesians 6:1</p>
<p><b>G</b> <b>“Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise —“that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”</b></p>	<p><i>Third Grade +</i> Ephesians 6:2,3</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>	The healing of a blind man and a test Matthew 16:13-20; Mark 8:22-30; Luke 9:18-21	Romans 7
<b>Wednesday</b>	Christ’s prediction of this death, resurrection, and the coming of his kingdom Matthew 16:21-28; Mark 8:31-9:1; Luke 9:22-27	Romans 8
<b>Thursday</b>	First Lesson for the Festival of the Pentecost Genesis 11:1-9	Romans 9
<b>Friday</b>	Second Lesson for the Festival of Pentecost Acts 2:1-21	Romans 10-11
<b>Saturday</b>	Gospel for the Festival of Pentecost John 15:26,27	Romans 12
<b>Sunday</b>	The Transfiguration Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36a	Romans 13-14
<b>Monday</b>	The perplexity of the disciples Matthew 17:9-13; Mark 9:9-13; Luke 9:36b	Romans 15-16

PRAYERS

*Prayer for the Festival of Pentecost:*

**L** Holy Spirit, God and Lord, come to us this joyful day with your sevenfold gift of grace. Rekindle in our hearts the holy fire of your love that in a true and living faith we may tell abroad the glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

### ***Prayer for Parents***

**L** Heavenly Father, You have given us the gift of children who are to be brought up in the training and instruction of the Gospel of Your Son. Give to all Christian fathers and mothers the strength and will to teach the Word of God to their children, and to see this responsibility as their most important duty. Deliver them from the temptation to abandon this sacred trust. Grant them faithfulness in their calling as parents, that they might love and care for their children even as You love and care for them in Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

### ***Prayer for Children***

**L** Heavenly Father, grant Your grace in Christ to all Christian children that they might honor their parents in spite of their failings, and enjoy a long and blessed life according to Your will; 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: 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***

*Jackie Adelung, Ashleigh Darby, Randy Kahle, Rick Reinsch, Trevor Adelung, Chaden Darby, Gabi Webb, Vicki Webb, and Michelle Reinsch, as they celebrate the anniversary of their confirmations, that they continue to remember their vows and that the Lord hold them faithfully in his end to the end.*

*Phil Brei, as he celebrates the anniversary of his baptism, that he remember the grace into which he was brought and that he daily relies on the power and peace this blessed sacrament offers.*

*Kathy Lange and Les Adelung, as they celebrate their birthdays this week, that the Lord bless them with another year of his grace and mercy.*

*A certain friend of the Church, who is continues to struggle 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>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.

## **HYMN OF THE DAY FOR THE FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST**

*Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord* | CW 176

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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.'"