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# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

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*The Week of the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 12-18, 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— The Fifth and Sixth Commandments—In the Second Table of the Law we see especially the gifts of creation that God wishes to protect and through which He brings many blessings to us. The Fifth Commandment, "You shall not murder," teaches us that human life is sacred. After the Flood, God instituted capital punishment for murder precisely because man was made in the image of God (Genesis 9:5-7). By the Fifth Commandment God wishes to protect human life. Inflicting physical harm upon someone, abortion and euthanasia, as well as hatred and grudge-bearing, are all forms of murder forbidden under the Fifth Commandment. The Sixth Commandment, "You shall not commit adultery," teaches us that marriage and sexuality are gifts of God to be used and enjoyed in the way that God created them. According to God's Word, marriage is only between one man and one woman for life. Sexuality is a gift of God that is to be used for the most intimate expression of love within the one flesh union of marriage and for the procreation of children. All forms of adultery, homosexuality, and divorce are forbidden under the Sixth Commandments. The sanctity of human life and marriage is taught by Jesus in this week's Bible Verse. The Fifth and Sixth Commandments not only forbid murder and adultery, but they also teach how love is expressed according to these commandments. We are called to "help and be of service to our neighbor in every physical need" and "to lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do," loving the spouse that God has given us in marriage.*

### 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

*Mark 10:6-8a*

**G** From the beginning of the creation, God "made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh"; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh.

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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.'"



## 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
<b>Morning</b>	91	92	95,96	98,100	101	103	106
<b>Evening</b>	93	94	97	99	102	104	105

## PSALM PRAYER

**L** O Lord, Your Word alone teaches us to know and understand what is good and true. Grant us your grace and Spirit to walk in the ways of your commandments and to call upon You for salvation and the strength to be faithful to You in all we do and say, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**G** Amen.

## THE CATECHISM: THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

*Fifth & Sixth Commandments*

<p><b>L</b> What is the Fifth Commandment?</p> <p><b>C</b> <b>You shall not murder.</b></p>	<i>Preschool +</i>
<p><b>L</b> What does this mean?</p> <p><b>C</b> <b>We should fear and love God that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every bodily need.</b></p>	<i>First Grade +</i>
<p><b>Prayers on the Third Commandment:</b></p> <p>Heavenly Father forgive us our sins against the fifth commandment. Strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</p> <p>Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Fifth Commandment You teach us that the gift of life is sacred and holy, and that it is to be protected from every form of murder. By the gift of Your only-begotten Son You saved us from death and restored life with You. We give thanks to You for this gift and for our new life in Christ. Forgive us for every form of murder—for hatred, resentment, and refusing to forgive those who have sinned against us. Grant us Your grace and mercy that we might let go of all grudges, sincerely forgive our enemies, and truly help and support our neighbor in every physical need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</p>	
<p><b>L</b> What is the Sixth Commandment?</p> <p><b>C</b> <b>You shall not commit adultery.</b></p>	<i>Preschool +</i>
<p><b>L</b> What does this mean?</p> <p><b>C</b> <b>We should fear and love God that we lead a pure and decent life in words and actions, and that husband and wife love and honor each other.</b></p>	<i>Second Grade +</i>
<p><b>Prayers on the Second Commandment:</b></p> <p>Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of marriage, where you join together a man and a woman in love for each other and, when it is Your will, to become a father and a mother. Strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we lead a pure and decent life in what we say and do, and grow to be faithful husbands and wives who love and honor our spouses; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</p> <p>Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Sixth Commandment You teach us that marriage is Your gift to us, where a man and a woman are brought together in love to become one flesh and, when it is Your will, for receiving the gift of children. Thank You for this wonderful gift to us. Forgive us for every sin against marriage and the Sixth Commandment. Uphold all husbands and wives in their marriages. Give them faithfulness to Your Word. Teach</p>	

them to live according to Your will. Strengthen them to live in Your love for each other; and enable them to live sexually pure and decent lives in everything that they say and do as husbands and wives; 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
<b>Monday</b>	Jesus' farewell discourse on the way to the Garden of Gethsemane	Matthew 26:30; Mark 14:26; Luke 22:39; John 15-16 Revelation 7
<b>Tuesday</b>	Christ's intercessory prayer	John 17 Revelation 8
<b>Wednesday</b>	Christ's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane	Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:40-46; John 18:1 Revelation 9
<b>Thursday</b>	First Lesson for the 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Amos 8:4-7 Revelation 10
<b>Friday</b>	Second Lesson for the 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	1 Timothy 2:1-8 Revelation 11
<b>Saturday</b>	Gospel for the 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Luke 16:1-13 Revelation 12
<b>Sunday</b>	Jesus' betrayal, arrest, and abandonment	Matthew 26:47-56; Mark 14:43-52; Luke 22:47-53; John 18:2-12a Revelation 13

## PRAYERS

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

**L** Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ 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***

*Creed Buck and Danica Hernandez, as they celebrate their birthdays this week, that the Lord continue to shower blessings upon them in another year of His favor and grace.*

*The Brei Family, as the anniversary of Phil's father's death occurs this week, continue to remind them of your victory through Christ, that because of Christ's victory on the cross and over the grave, all who believe in Christ have the assurance of life in heaven with him.*

### **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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## All Depends on Our Possessing



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant  
 2 He who to this day has fed me And to man - y  
 3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting O - ver tri - fles  
 4 Well he knows what best to grant me; All the long - ing  
 5 If on earth my days he length - en, He my wea - ry



grace and bless - ing, Though all earth - ly wealth de - part.  
 joys has led me Is and ev - er shall be mine.  
 and in get - ting Things that have no sol - id ground.  
 hopes that haunt me, Joy and sor - row, have their day.  
 soul will strength - en; All my trust in him I place.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en In their God are  
 He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, He who dai - ly  
 I shall strive to win a trea - sure That will bring me  
 I shall doubt his wis - dom nev - er— As God wills, so  
 Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing, Like a stream a -



not for - sak - en And e'er keep a daunt - less heart.  
 guides and rules me, Will re - main my help di - vine.  
 last - ing plea - sure And that now is sel - dom found.  
 be it ev - er— I to him com - mit my way.  
 way is glid - ing; Safe I an - chor in his grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, Nürnberg, 1676, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN (887 887) Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, alt.