

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity  
October 15 through October 22, 2006*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week—To Parents and Children in the Table of Duties**—"It would be well to preach to parents on the nature of their office, how they should treat those committed to their authority... God does not want to have knaves or tyrants in this office and responsibility nor does he assign them this honor (that is, power and authority to govern) merely to receive homage. Parents should consider that they owe obedience to God, and that, above all, they should earnestly and faithfully discharge the duties of their office, not only to provide for the material support of their children, servants, subjects, etc., but especially to bring them up to the praise and honor of God... If we want qualified and capable men for both civil and spiritual leadership, we must spare no effort, time, and expense in teaching and educating our children to serve God and mankind. We must not think only of amassing money and property for them. God can provide for them and make them rich without our help, as indeed He does daily. But he has given and entrusted children to us with the command that we train and govern them according to His will; otherwise God would have no need of father and mother. Therefore let everybody know that it is his chief duty, on pain of losing divine grace, to bring up his children in the fear and knowledge of God, and if they are gifted to give them opportunity to learn and study so that they may be of service wherever they are needed." (Luther, Fourth Commandment, Large Catechism)

## **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. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

## **Theme: Life Comes by the Word of the Lord.**

### **Invocation**

**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### **Apostles' Creed**

**Verse: Proverbs 3:5-6**

**Trust in the Lord with / all your heart,\* and lean not on your own under / standing;  
In all your ways ac / knowledge Him,\* and He shall di / rect your paths.**

### **Psalm 119:105-112 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.**

Prayer on the Psalm: Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that by patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	119:89-112	119:137-152	122, 123	125, 126	128, 129	131, 132	135	137, 138
Evening	119:113-136	119:153-176	124	127	130	133, 134	136	139

### **The Catechism: The Table of Duties—To Parents and Children**

What does God's Word say to Parents? Fathers, do not exasperate your children, Instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.	Third Grade + Ephesians 6:4
What does God's Word say to Children? Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.	First Grade + Ephesians 6:1
"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."	Second Grade + Ephesians 6:2-3

**Readings for the Week of the Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity**

Day	First Reading—Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Second Reading
Monday	The Ark of the Covenant Is Brought into the Temple—1 Kings 8:1-21	Ephesians 1:1-23
Tuesday	Solomon's Prayer at the Temple Dedication—1 Kings 8:22-40	Ephesians 2:1-22
Wednesday	God's Word to Solomon—1 Kings 9:1-9	Ephesians 4:7-21
Thursday	The Queen of Sheba and Solomon's Wealth—1 Kings 10:1-13	Ephesians 4:29-32
Friday	Solomon's Heart Turns from the Lord—1 Kings 11:1-13	Ephesians 5:10-14
Saturday	Look ahead to Sunday	Ephesians 5:22-33

**Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Peace**

*Collect for the Week of the Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity:*

Lord, we implore You to keep Your household the Church in continual godliness, that through Your protection she may be free from all adversities and devoutly given to serve You in good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Daily Themes for Prayer**

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; your calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for government; and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; and those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family; living together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; those adults who must rear their children alone; and godly schools, especially Peace Lutheran Academy, our church schools, and seminaries.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the church and her pastors; for missionaries; fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; its spread throughout the whole world and our community; the persecuted.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; the dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

*In Our Prayers this Week*

*Herb Kirk, father of Randy Kirk, who is hospitalized in serious condition after surgery.  
Ann Pagac, mother of Joanne LaSage, undergoing treatment for cancer.*

**Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism**

**Hymn of Week**

**"How Can I Thank You, Lord"**

**703 (Stanza 1-2)**

**Look forward to the Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity**

**October 22, 2006**

**Hymns: 611, 845, 663, 703 (1-2, 5)**

**Micah 6:6-8:** *"To love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God" is what the Lord says is good. It is a description of faith in Christ. To know Christ is to love mercy. To walk humbly with your God is to trust in Jesus by confessing one's sin and clinging to His forgiveness. To love mercy is to believe in it as the most important gift we have from God through Christ.*

**Philippians 1:3-11:** *Paul speaks to the Philippians in thanksgiving to God for their "fellowship in the Gospel" with him. To have "fellowship in the Gospel" is to share the common faith in Christ for the forgiveness of sins by grace alone and not by the works of the Law. This "fellowship in the Gospel" is characterized by the life of mercy and unconditional love toward brothers and sisters within the household of faith that covers their sin with forgiveness that is freely and unbegrudgingly given.*

**Matthew 18:21-35:** *The parable of the Unjust Servant teaches us that in the death of His Son, God has forgiven us a debt that we could not pay. This parable teaches the baptized that forgiveness for those who trespass against us flows from faith in Christ's undeserved forgiveness, and that the refusal to forgive those who trespass against us is a denial of faith in Christ and a rejection of His forgiveness. He forgives us freely by the merits of Jesus alone, that we might live in that free gift of forgiveness especially toward those who have sinned against us.*