

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the week of the Fifth Sunday After Trinity
July 12 – 18, 2020

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the catechism, hymn of the week, and verse for the week.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. **Amen.**

Psalm Psalm 16 (antiphon v. 11)

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|-----------|---------------------|
| Sunday | Galatians 1:1-24 |
| Monday | Galatians 2:1-21 |
| Tuesday | Galatians 3:1-22 |
| Wednesday | Galatians 3:23-4:11 |
| Thursday | Galatians 4:12-31 |
| Friday | Galatians 5:1-26 |
| Saturday | Galatians 6:1-18 |

Next Sundays Readings: Old Testament: Exodus 20:1–7 Epistle: Romans 6:1–11 Gospel: Matthew 5:17–26

Recite Memory Work (see back page)

Prayers

O God, You have prepared for those who love You good things that surpass all understanding. Pour into our hearts such love toward You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

O Lord, look down from heaven, behold, visit and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers:

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|---|--------------------------|
| Our Redeemer Lutheran Church | Nancy (Russell's sister) |
| The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod | Richard (Judy's brother) |
| (The Revd) President Matthew Harrison | Sophie (Sandra's family) |
| (The Revd) President Richard Snow | Glenn (Sandra's family) |
| Our Concordia Seminaries, Colleges, and Schools | Clayton Wade |
| Our Sister Churches | Kim Houfek |
| The United States of America | Kimm Lowther |
| President Donald Trump | Ruth Klemz |
| Governor Pete Ricketts | Angela Stuart |
| Margery (Di Vasicek's mom) | Jacob Wusk |
| Fritz & Joann (Karen Temme's parents) | Sarah Gramlich |
| Ian (Dan's nephew) | Gloria Krueger |
| Ryan (Julie's son) | Eleanor Matson |
| Pastor Dan Heuer | Delores Henke |
| Larry and Andrea & Maddie (Shirley Martin's family) | Valerie Hamar |
| Etienne (Louis' son) | Judy Oaklund |
| Roxie Beck (Elaine's niece) | Lee & Sandra Wade |
| Gene Gonnerman | John Chapek |
| Marvin (Gary & Pam's friend) | Loren Knight |
| Ginger (Julie's mom) | Elaine Gonnerman |
| Ruby (Kareen's mom) | Gayle Schwenck |
| | Bernice Wiese |
| | Marge Meyer |
| | Velva Christensen |
| | Lavona Lanik |
| | Kathryn Miller |
| | Pastor Zachary Courie |

Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy; grant them comfort and sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect During A Pandemic

Almighty God, heavenly Father, give us grace to trust You during this time of illness and distress. In mercy, put an end to the pandemic that is afflicting the world. Grant relief to those who suffer, and comfort all that mourn. Sustain all medical personnel in their labors, and cause Your people ever to serve You in righteousness and holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect For The Nation

Almighty God, You have given us this good land as our heritage. Grant that we remember Your generosity and constantly do Your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Grant that we, who came from many nations with many different languages, may become a united people. Support us in defending our liberties, and give those to whom we have entrusted the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there may be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, may our hearts be thankful, and in troubled times do not let our trust in You fail; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Morning or Evening Prayer (from the Catechism)

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son,

(Morning) ...that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You.

(Evening) ...that You have graciously kept me this day. And I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night.

For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Memory Work

The Catechism – The Office of the Keys

What is the Office of the Keys?

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to his Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

Where is this written?

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

John 20:22-23

What do you believe according to these words?

I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

Hymn of the Week: “Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake #688

1. “Come, follow me,” the Savior spake, “All in My way abiding; Deny yourselves, the world forsake, Obey My call and guiding. O bear the cross, whate’er betide, Take My example for your guide.
2. “I am the light, I light the way, A godly life displaying; I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying. I am the way, and well I show How you must sojourn here below.

Verse for the Week:

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. -1 Corinthians 1:18