

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

For the Week of the 1st Sunday after Pentecost – The Holy Trinity

June 20th, 2011 – June 25th, 2011

Theme for the Week – *In the Triune God we find our beginning, our redemption and our restoration to everlasting holiness.*

Catechesis Notes: For God So Loved the World—"That there should be a God who would love the world and not begrudge it some good, is beyond all our ability to reason, comprehend, or understand. I would have wished for the world the fires of hell, and especially, I would do it if I were God, who knows the world inside and out. That is what I would do. But what does God do? Instead of his wrath, which the world has so richly deserved, he loves the world, and in such boundless and incomprehensible measure that he presents his very own Son as a gift to the world, his bitterest enemy...It would have been more than enough for God to wish the world "good morning." So he goes beyond this and loves the world, the disgraceful offspring. It is just about the most utterly hostile and ill-disposed contradiction. And in truth, that is what the world is: a pigsty of unabashedly evil people, who abuse all God's creation in the most brazen way possible, blaspheme God, and provoke him to his face. These selfsame shameless people God loves. That is a love which transcends all love. This is truly a good God, and his love must be great, incomprehensible fire, greater by far than the fire which Moses saw in the bush, indeed greater by far than the fire of hell. Who would despair, seeing God is so disposed toward the world? It is too high and beyond my ability to elaborate on it, or to draw out the abundant riches that it truly contains." Martin Luther

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.

Invocation –

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse of the Week: 2 Corinthians 13:14 – 14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments – 1st

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?

We should fear, love and trust in God above all things.

Readings for the week of the 1st Sun. after Pentecost – The Holy Trinity

Day	Bible Readings for the Family
Monday	Confessing Christ Before Men - Matthew 10:32-11:1
Tuesday	John the Baptist Sends Disciples to Jesus - Matthew 11:2-19
Wednesday	Jesus Preaches Repentance and Faith - Matthew 11:20-30
Thursday	Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath - Matthew 12:1-8
Friday	Jesus Heals on the Sabbath - Matthew 12:9-21
Saturday	Meditations or Look to Sunday's Readings below

Prayers:

The Lord's Prayer

The Evening Prayer from the Small Catechism

In the name of God the Father, Son †, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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.

Looking forward to next Sunday – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost – 6/26/11

Theme: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past (The Presentation of the Augsburg Confession)*

1 Timothy 6:11b-16: *The confession of faith that the Church makes under the threat of persecution and martyrdom is based upon the confession of faith that Christ Himself made on our behalf before Pontius Pilate. His confession not only resulted in His death and, therefore, our salvation, but it is also the basis of the Church's confession before the world.*

Matthew 10:32-39: *When we are at peace with God, we are, of necessity, at war with the world, which has rejected our Savior. Our love for Jesus may sever the closest bonds of human love, or it may cost us our lives. We can be sure that when we suffer crosses with Jesus, we will receive eternal life by the grace of God.*