

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Week of Jubilate (the Fourth Sunday of Easter)
 April 21st through April 27th, 2024

Catechesis Notes for the Week—The Office of Husband—This week’s section of the Table of Duties directs us to what God’s Word says concerning the Office of Husband. When the Apostle Peter directs, “Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers,” he is reminding husbands that their wives have been given an office by God that places them in a subordinate position to them. It would be easy for the husband, corrupted by the sinful flesh as he is, to take advantage of his headship and the wife’s position of subordination to him. Therefore Peter reminds him that he is to “be considerate” of the position that God gave her and be husband to her in selfless love. Although they are not both in the same office, they are, nevertheless, equal “heirs of the gracious gift of life” in Christ Jesus. If he does not believe that then his prayers, which include the ministration of his office as a husband will be “hindered.” The essential disposition of the husband to the wife is contained in the passage from Colossians: “Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.” Here the husband’s office is depicted as the office of Christ to His bride, the Church, as it is also in Ephesians 5. Christ loves His bride by laying down His life for her and covering her sins with His blood. He is never harsh with her who is “bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh, but nourishes and cares for her as His own body.” The office of husband finds its identity in Christ, the Church’s Bridegroom.

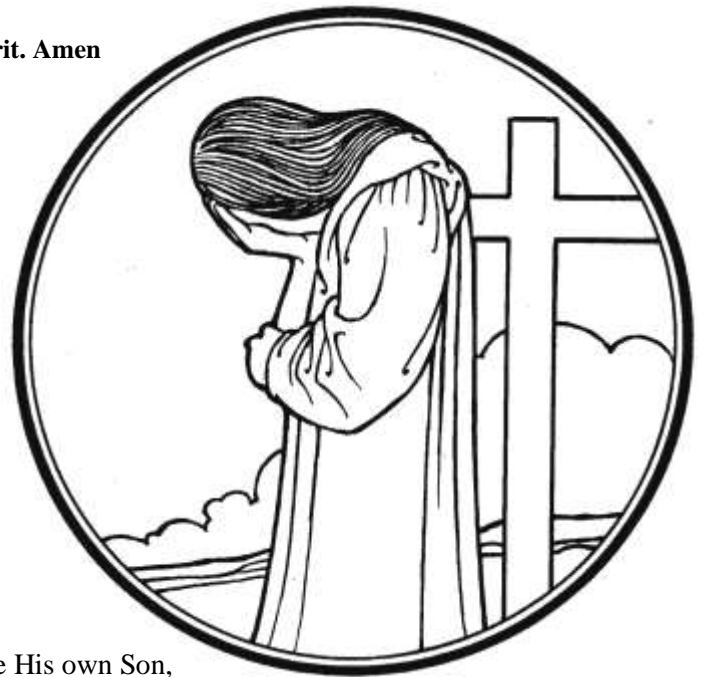
The Order of Meditation and Prayer

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

Theme: Our Sorrow Is Turned to Joy.

Invocation

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



Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 8:31b-32

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Psalm 147:1-11 (antiphon v. 5)—Pray the Psalm Daily

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord Jesus, You take pleasure in those who fear You and in those who hope in Your mercy. Preach Your Word to us that we might know the power of Your love and the consolation of Your salvation, for You are the only true God and Savior who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Catechism: The Table of Duties—To Husbands

What does God’s Word say to husbands?

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

First Grade+
1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

First Grade +
Colossians 3:19

Prayer for Husbands: *O Lord Jesus, by Your Word and Spirit, fashion the men of Your Church into husbands made in Your image, who love their wives and sacrifice themselves for them, even as You gave Yourself for us, Your bride the Church. Teach them to respect their wives and to treat them with tenderness, compassion, and lovingkindness. Deliver them from all pride and arrogance so that they do not take advantage of their wives but honor them as joint heirs of the gracious gift of life. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.*

Readings for the week of Jubilate (The Fourth Sunday of Easter)

Day	First Reading	Second Reading
Monday	Samuel's Address at Saul's Coronation—1 Samuel 12:1 (2-13) 14-25	Colossians 3:18—4:1
Tuesday	Saul's Unlawful Sacrifice—1 Samuel 13:1-14	Colossians 4:2-18
Wednesday	Saul's Wars and His Unfaithfulness—1 Samuel 14:52—15:9	1 John 1:1—2:2
Thursday	St. Mark, Evangelist —Mark 16:14-20	Isaiah 52:7-10
Friday	Saul Is Rejected by the Lord—1 Samuel 15:10-35	1 John 2:3-14
Saturday	The Song of Isaiah—Isaiah 12:1-6	James 1:16-21

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

Collect for the Week of the Fourth Sunday of Easter:

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for St. Mark—Evangelist: (Thursday)

Almighty God, You have enriched Your Church with the proclamation of the Gospel through the evangelist Mark. Grant that we may firmly believe these glad tidings and daily walk according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

In Our Prayers this Week (See Bulletin)

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

Hymn of the Week *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain (st. 1 & 4)* **LSB #487**

Looking forward to the Week of Cantate (the Fifth Sunday of Easter) **April 28th 2024**

Hymns: 471, 556, 768, 633, 478, 580, 729, 523, 475

Isaiah 12:1-6: *This section of Isaiah records a great song in praise of the Lord for His salvation. This is the song of the faithful who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ and declared righteous for Jesus' sake.*

James 1:16-21: *James speaks of the "implanted Word which is able to save your souls." The Spirit calls us by the Word of the Gospel to faith in Christ. He "implants" the Word in us. This is how the "conception" of the new life in Christ begins. The Spirit then brings about our new birth in Holy Baptism and we are the children of God. The life begun in us by the implanted Word moves us to turn away from all the filthiness of our unbelieving nature, because it is the life of Christ Himself in us—the Father's good and perfect gift.*

John 16:5-15: *Jesus teaches concerning the ministry of the Holy Spirit. "Unbelief is the root of all sin and rebellion against God. Unless the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin through the preaching of repentance, we cannot be turned from unbelief to faith in Christ. The proclamation of the Law, which convicts us of all manner of sin and unbelief, is an essential part of the Spirit's work in bringing us from unbelief to faith in Christ. Without the conviction of sin, the sinner has no use for Christ. The death of Christ for the sins of the world is the righteousness of God. Man is sinner. God is righteous in Christ. Jesus "went to the Father" in His death to offer up Himself as the righteous offering for the sins of the world. Christ suffered death and all that we by our sins have deserved. The righteousness of Christ's death is the only source of salvation for the world. Unless the Holy Spirit convicts us of the righteousness of Christ through the preaching of the forgiveness of sins, we cannot be saved from sin. The proclamation of the Gospel creates faith in Christ and declares us righteous for Jesus' sake. The proclamation of the forgiveness of sins for Jesus' sake is the heart of the Spirit's work. The judgment of God that the sinner is righteous for Christ's sake sets man free from the judgment of the Law that the devil uses to condemn the world. Since God forgives us all sin and declares us righteous for Jesus' sake as a gift of His grace, the devil cannot accuse us of sin or damn us to eternal death." (from Lutheran Catechesis p. 127)*