

**The Congregation at Prayer**  
*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*  
**For the Week of Cantate (the Fifth Sunday of Easter)**  
 April 28<sup>th</sup> through May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Catechesis Notes for the Week— The Table of Duties Concerning Wives and Husbands**—The passages of Holy Scripture in the Table of Duties concern the offices we have been given as Christians where our faith in Christ is lived out in this world. There is often great confusion about these two holy offices. Husbands are the head of their wives, but their headship is one of sacrificial love, teaching the Word of God, and forgiving sin. They are to be considerate of their wives who are placed in an office that requires them to submit to their husbands. Husbands are not to lord their authority over their wives. This is always a temptation for any Christian husband. Wives are to understand that their office of submission is patterned after Christ’s bride the Church. They are to expect their husbands to love them, teach them, and forgive them. Their beauty is not in outward adornment, but in the reception of their husband’s love. “This is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands...” It is a beautiful and blessed thing when husbands love their wives as Christ loved the Church and when wives receive that love and trust in it.

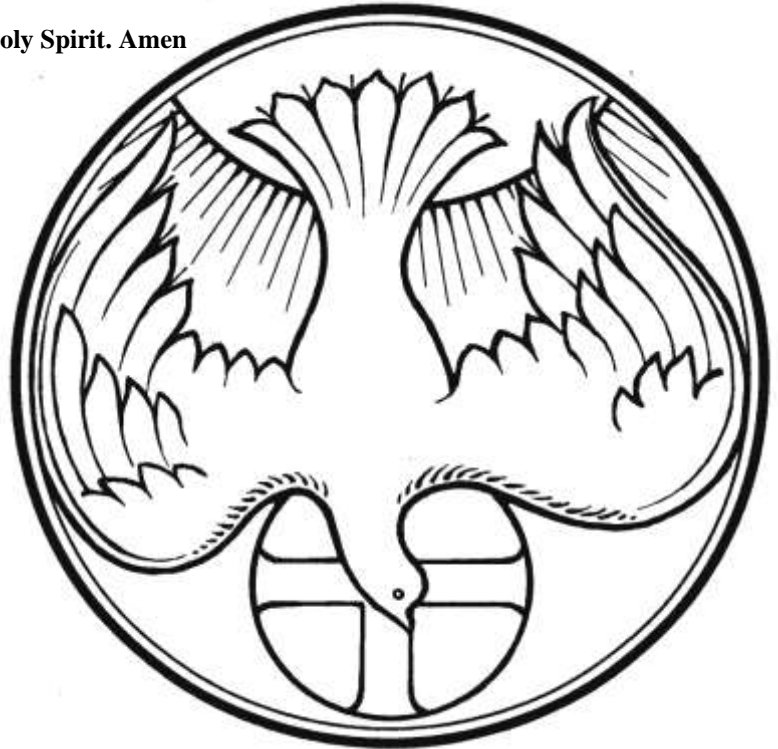
**The Order of Meditation and Prayer**

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: The Holy Spirit Preaches Christ.**

**Invocation**

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



**Apostles’ Creed**

**Verse: John 14:6**

I am the way, the truth, and the life.No one comes to the Father except through Me.

**Psalm 66:1-8 (antiphon v. 5)—Pray the Psalm Daily**

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, You preserve life and give the gift of salvation through Your Son. You hear the prayers of all who fear You and turn from their iniquity. Grant us to believe that all adversity and suffering that enters our lives is for our good and for the preservation of our faith. Teach us at all times to listen to Your Holy Word and to live by faith in Your promises alone, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**The Catechism: The Table of Duties—To Wives**

<p><i>What does God’s Word say of Wives?</i>          Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.</p>	<p>Third Grade+          Ephesians 5:22</p>
<p>[This is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful.]          They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master.          You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.</p>	<p>First Grade +          1 Peter 3:5-6</p>

**Prayer for Wives:** *O Lord Jesus, by Your Word and Spirit, fashion all Christian women into wives made in the image of Your bride the Church. Teach them to submit to their husbands as to You, their Lord and Savior. Give them hearts which trust in Your Word, honor their husbands, and look to them for love and spiritual headship. Deliver them from all fear and faithlessness. Where their husbands fail them, support them with Your grace and let them find their sufficiency in You. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.*

**Readings for the week of Cantate (The Fifth Sunday of Easter)**

Day	First Reading	Second Reading
Monday	David Is Anointed King—1 Samuel 16:1-13	1 John 2:15-27
Tuesday	David Plays the Harp for Saul—1 Samuel 16:14-23	1 John 2:28—3:9
Wednesday	<b>St. Philip and St. James, Apostles</b> —John 14:1-14	Isaiah 30:18-21
Thursday	Goliath the Philistine Giant—1 Samuel 17:1-19	1 John 3:10-24
Friday	David Journeys to the Battlefield—1 Samuel 17:20-37	1 John 4:1-11
Saturday	The Bronze Serpent—Numbers 21:4-9	1 Timothy 2:1-6

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

*Collect for the Week of the Fifth Sunday of Easter:*

**O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through 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. Philip and St. James, Apostles (Wednesday):*

**Almighty God, Your Son revealed Himself to Philip and James and gave them the knowledge of everlasting life. Grant us perfectly to know Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the way, the truth, and the life, and steadfastly to walk in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same 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**

**At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (st. 1 - 2)**

**LSB #633**

**Looking forward to the Week of Rogate (the Sixth Sunday of Easter)**

**May 5<sup>th</sup> 2024**

**Hymns: 807, 766, 602, 627, 560, 563, 547, 617, 486**

**Numbers 21:4-9:** *The Lord sent the fiery serpents to bite the grumbling children of Israel with poisonous venom. Why did He do that? Without the sting of death and the condemnation of the Law sinners are not brought to realize that they have sinned against the God who loved them. Without the preaching of repentance no one can receive the preaching of the forgiveness of sins. The Lord sent the fiery serpents to bite His people, that they might be turned to Him. The Lord Jesus became like the serpent of old being lifted up on the cross with the poison of our sin and condemnation laid upon Him. Why? That all who look to Him in faith might be saved.*

**1 Timothy 2:1-6:** *The basis of all Christian prayer is the mercy of God in Christ. The Lord Jesus is the mediator between God and man. His intercessions for us and for all mankind are rooted in God's desire that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. He is the One who gave Himself a ransom for all. The Gospel gives testimony to the saving work of Christ for all sinners. Unless our prayers are rooted in the faith that claims only the mercy of God in Christ, they are not prayers at all. This is why the Christian prays for everyone, including wicked tyrants and all civil authorities. We pray on the basis of God's universal grace to the world. The salvation of all other sinners, as well as our own, depends upon His undeserved love.*

**John 16:23-33:** *"Pray Ye" that is what the Lord Jesus commanded His disciples on Maundy Thursday night. What was He really saying? It is as if He were saying, "Trust ME!" "I have taught you the Gospel of the kingdom. I have borne all your burdens. I have carried your sorrows and your sins. I die for you. My Words are life and salvation. Trust ME!" What is it to trust in the Lord? It is to receive His Word and to cry out to Him for all that He has promised us. The prayers of the Apostles and the prayers of the faithful rest upon the sure and certain promises of God. This is good news! Our salvation from sin, death, and the devil do not come from our strength, goodness, or merit, but from the Lord who has done all things for us. "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."*