

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Cantate (the Fifth Sunday of Easter)
May 18th through May 24th, 2025

Catechesis Notes for the Week—The Table of Duties for Youth—“Submission” and “humility” are not terms that any of us naturally gravitate toward. The sinful flesh wants to submit to no one and is filled with arrogance and pride. If the sinful flesh doesn’t get its way, it rebels. From where does the will to “submit” and “humble one’s self” come? It comes from faith in the Gospel. Our Lord Jesus submitted Himself as a young man, because He trusted in His Father who promised to do good through His submission. He humbled Himself to the point of death on the cross, because He trusted His Father to do good through His suffering. When youth are admonished to submit to their elders and humble themselves before them, they are really being invited to trust God to do them good in their office as youth, even though they may have to endure things that they don’t agree with or enjoy. The way of faith is always the way of deference toward others. This we learn to believe through the faithful reception of the Gospel and Sacrament of our Lord.

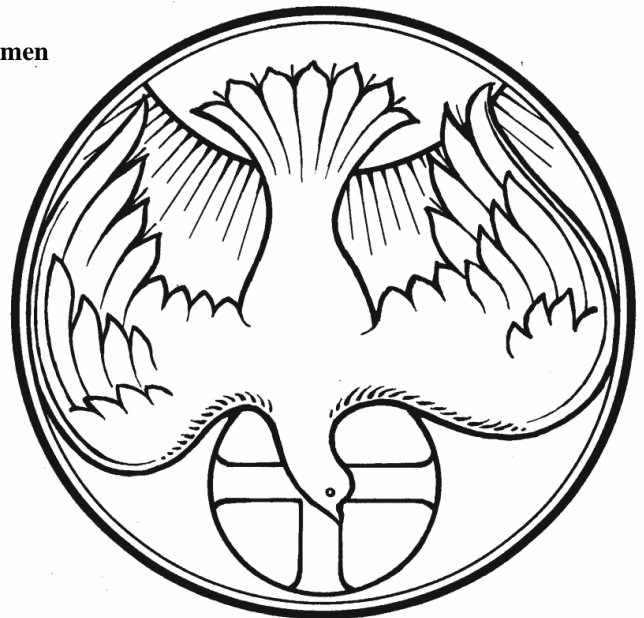
The Order of Meditation and Prayer

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: Acts 14:22b

Continue in the faith ... “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”

Psalms 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 Employers and Supervisors and To Youth

What does God’s Word say to Employers and Supervisors? Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with Him.	Third Grade+ Ephesians 6:9
What does God’s Word say to Youth? Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”	First Grade + 1 Peter 5:5
Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.	Second Grade + 1 Peter 5:6

Prayer for Employers and Supervisors: *Gracious Lord, You have given us great responsibilities and authority as employers and supervisors of others. Teach us by Your grace and mercy to treat our workers and those who are under us with respect, understanding, and compassion. Give us a humble spirit toward them and help us to see our workers as gifts of God who depend upon us for their livelihood and who enable us to be of greater service to others for whom we perform our life's work; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Prayer for Youth: *O Lord, as You in humility and faith submitted Yourself to Mary and Joseph and to every authority instituted among men for our salvation, teach us to submit to our elders and to believe that You will accomplish Your good purposes in our lives and in the lives of others through such honor and respect; in Your holy name we pray. Amen.*

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

Day	First Reading	Second Reading
Monday	The Baptism and Genealogy of Jesus—Luke 3:(1-20) 21-38	Ecclesiastes 1:1-18
Tuesday	The Temptation of Our Lord—Luke 4:1-15	Ecclesiastes 2:1-26
Wednesday	Jesus Is Rejected in Nazareth—Luke 4:16-30	Ecclesiastes 3:1-22
Thursday	The Signs of the Messiah—Luke 4:31-44	Ecclesiastes 4:1-16
Friday	Jesus Calls Fishers of Men—Luke 5:1-11	Ecclesiastes 5:1-20
Saturday	Sunday's OT and Epistle—Numbers 21:4-9	James 1:22-27

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

In Our Prayers this Week (See Bulletin)

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

Hymn of the Week "To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray"

LSB #768

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

May 25th, 2025

Hymns: 773, 766, 617, 549, 630, 781, 724, 643, 648

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 16:23-30: "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."