

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following the Fourth Sunday after Trinity
(June 23rd – June 29th)*

CATECHETICAL THEME:

What Hearers Owe Their Pastors

This Week's Catechetical Theme: What Hearers Owe their Pastors

Christ has His Church. A husband has his bride. A father has his children. And a pastor has his people. Of course, the offices of headship have specific duties, which must be carried out for the benefit of those served, by such offices. Christ had to die for the salvation of sinners. A husband likewise must love his wife; a father his children; and a pastor his people. This was last week's emphasis as we studied the Vocation of the Pastoral Office. But those who receive the ministry of the Pastoral Office are also called by God to a certain vocation—the vocation of hearer. That is the focus of this week's catechetical material: the Vocation of the Laity. God bless your time in His Word.

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

The Ten Commandments & The Apostles' Creed

The Catechism: The Large Catechism – The Fourth Commandment

Besides these there are still spiritual fathers. They are not like those in the papacy, who have had themselves called fathers but have performed no function of the fatherly office [Matthew 23:9]. For the only ones called spiritual father are those who govern and guide us by God's Word. In this sense, St. Paul boasts his fatherhood in 1 Corinthians 4:15, where he says, "I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel." Now, since they are fathers, they are entitled to their honor, even above all others (LC I, 158-160).

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Judging Others Luke 6:36-42		Psalm 94
Monday	Obey Your Leaders Hebrews 13:7-19	Ezra 7	Psalm 95
Tuesday	A Living from the Gospel 1 Corinthians 9:8-14	Ezra 8	Psalm 96
Wednesday	Double Honor 1 Timothy 5:17-22	Ezra 9	Psalm 97
Thursday	Respect Those Who Labor 1 Thessalonians 5:17-22	Ezra 10	Psalm 98
Friday	Share All Good with One Who Teaches Galatians 6:6-10	Nehemiah 1	Psalm 99
Saturday	The Lord Speaks to Elijah 1 Kings 19:11-21	Christ the Wisdom and Power of God 1 Corinthians 1:18-25	Psalm 100

Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** What does it mean to obey? To submit? For what reason do the people submit to their leaders? How does this relate to the 4th Commandment? **Tues:** Why should a pastor receive an income? What does this allow him to do? What does a lack of income indicate about the people whom he serves? **Wed:** Elder is one of the New Testament words for pastor. Why should a pastor be considered worthy of double honor? Why should we not bring a charge against the pastor? **Thurs:** How are the people to treat the pastor (laborer)? For what reason should they treat him like this? How is their life toward one another a reflection of that which their pastor preaches? **Fri:** How does a Christian share all things with his pastor? Who is this like the ideas of obedience and submission from Hebrews 13? How is the doing of good to our neighbor consistent with what a pastor preaches? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. (Hebrews 13:17)

In Our Prayers this Week

For Circuit Vacancies: Messiah Lutheran (Carlyle). **For Those Expecting:** Shelby Maschhoff. **For Those Who Mourn:** Family of Willard Arbeiter (Brother-In-Law of Lois Brink). **For Those Recovering from Surgery:** Kim Childress (David Childress' Sister) Marilyn Edwards, Mike Eggerman, Brad Hunt (Vernon & Carolyn's Son-In-Law), Dawna Wander (Friend of Dave Childress), Sherri Williams. **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments/Testing:** Eli Kuper, Marla Corry, Beth Jones (daughter-in-law of Mike Jones), Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann), Alexis Tehandon (Granddaughter of Debra Wells).

For Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain: Barb Mueller, Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann. **Baptismal Birthday:** Heidi Gehrs, Kim Albers (6/26), Karlie Schilling (6/27). **Wedding Anniversary:** Calvin & Jackie Yardley (6/29).
The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism
Hymn of the Month: Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide (LSB 585)