The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*for 5th Sunday after Trinity*

*July 9, 2023*

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

Catechesis Notes for the week – **Psalm 119: Zayin and Heth – Meditations upon God’s Word – The Zayin section** of psalm 119 calls upon the Lord to remember his servant based on the Word upon which God has caused the believer to trust. The comfort of every Christian is the absolute trustworthiness of the Lord. He keeps His promises. In this section, word, law, judgments, statutes, and precepts are references to God’s Word. He remembers us in our affliction according to the promises of His Word. God’s judgments of old comfort the Christian as we see the Lord’s faithfulness clearly demonstrated countless times throughout salvation history. Though gripped at times by fear, yet His statutes give us a song trusting in His precepts. **The Heth section** of psalm 119 teaches us that the Lord comes to us through His Word. He is the content of the Word. To trust in the Word of God is to trust in Jesus and to cling to Him for all of life and salvation. This section extols the baptismal life of daily contrition and repentance in which we die to sin and flee to the Lord for forgiveness and renewal. This is what it means to “keep His words…commandments…and precepts.” It is not that we have no sin, but in the spiritual warfare we are constantly returning to the Lord in repentance. By His mercy and forgiveness, we are raised up and refreshed. The earth is full of the Lord’s mercy in the preaching of the Gospel. To be “taught His statutes” is to be tutored by the Word to learn to believe in His mercy as the fountain and strength for our lives. In this section, words, word, testimonies, commandments, law, righteous judgments, precepts, and statutes are the references to God’s Word.

***Invocation* -In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Verse:** Micah 7:18 – Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy.

**Apostles’ Creed**

**Psalm of the Week: Psalm 119 Zayin and Heth**

**Year I – New Testament Stories**

**Bible Readings for the Week**

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| Sunday | Trinity 5 Gospel – Luke 5:1-11 |
| Monday | Jesus Cleanses the Temple – Matthew 21:12-17 |
| Tuesday | The Fruitless Fig Tree – Matthew 21:18-27 |
| Wednesday | The Parable of the Two Sons – Matthew 21:28-32 |
| Thursday | The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers – Matthew 21:33-46 |
| Friday | The Parable of the Wedding Feast – Matthew 22:1-14 |
| Saturday | Trinity 6 OT – Exodus 20:1-17 |

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| **Catechism: Second Article** | **Grades** |
| *What is the Second Article of the Creed?*  And [I believe] in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord… | Preschool+ |
| *What does this mean?*  I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death. That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true. | 1st+ |