

11 RECITE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM AND MEANING

What are such sins? (that we might confess)

We can examine our everyday life according to the Ten Commandments - for example, how we act toward father or mother, son or daughter, husband or wife, or toward the people with whom we work, and so on. We may ask ourselves whether we have been disobedient or unfaithful, bad-tempered or dishonest, or whether we have hurt anyone by word or deed.

How might we confess our sins privately?

We may say we wish to confess our sins and to receive absolution in God's name. We may begin by saying, "I, a poor sinner, confess before God that I am guilty of many sins." Then we should name the sins that trouble us. We may close the confession with the words, "I repent of all these sins and pray for mercy, I promise to do better with God's help."

12 PRAYER BASED ON THE PORTION OF THE CATECHISM

Prayer based on Confession and Absolution the Second Question "What is Private Confession?" Lord Jesus Christ, I give You thanks that my sins are forgiven before Your Father in heaven. By the Holy Spirit, give me grace to trust in Your promises and so live in the freedom and peace that You have won for me in Your death and resurrection. Amen [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 313]

13 IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK - INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

- ⇒ For Carol Halderson coping with dementia
- ⇒ For Janet Sisul being cared for
- ⇒ For Pastor Dave Steffenson battling cancer
- ⇒ For Sue Reget who suffered a brain aneurism
- ⇒ For Doris Stanke, Anne Warner's mother, with dementia
- ⇒ For Cynthia Granger, Naomi Rislow's sister
- ⇒ battling cancer.
- ⇒ For Phil & Pat Webber, Mary Bartos' parents

14 HYMN OF THE WEEK AND UPCOMING SUNDAY LESSONS

O Bread of Life from Heaven LBW 222: *stnz 1* O Bread of life from heaven, O Food to pilgrims given, O Manna from above: Feed with the blessed sweetness Of your divine completeness The souls that want and need your love. *stnz 2* O Fount of grace redeeming, O River ever streaming From Jesus' wounded side: Come now, your love bestowing On thirsting souls, and flowing Till all are fully satisfied. *stnz 3* We love you, Jesus, tender, In all your hidden splendor Within these means of grace. Oh, let the veil be riven, And our clear eye in heaven Behold your glory face to face.

For August 15, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost (Pr 15): **Proverbs 9:1-10** "Walk in the way of understanding; **Psalms 34:12-22** "Those who seek the LORD lack no good thing."; **Ephesians 5:6-21** "Be filled with the Spirit."; **John 6:51-69** "If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever."



The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

A guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 8 through August 14

1 INVOCATION - MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS AND SAY:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2 CONFESS THE APOSTLES' CREED
I believe in God, the Father, almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

3 PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

4 PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

Morning. We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all danger and harm. We ask you to preserve and keep us, this day also, from all sin and evil, that in all our thoughts, words and deeds we may serve and please you. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen.

Evening. We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have this day so graciously protected us. We beg you to forgive us all our sins and the wrong which we have done. By your great mercy defend us from all the perils and dangers of this night. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen

5 AT MEAL TIME ASK BLESSING THEN AFTERWARDS RETURN THANKS

Blessing before meal

“The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season. You open wide your hand, and satisfy the needs of every living creature.” [Ps. 145:15-16]

Lord, God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Returning Thanks after meal

“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. He gives food to all creatures. He provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry. He is not impressed by the might of a horse, he has no pleasure in the strength of a man; but the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favor.” [Ps. 136:1, 25; 147:9-11]

We thank you, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

6 PRAY THE PSALMS

General Wk. 4	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	108, 150	62, 145	12, 146	96, 147:1-12	116, 147:13-21	84, 148	63, 149
Evening	66, 23	73, 9	36, 7	132, 134	26, 130	25, 40	138, 98

7 RECITE THE VERSE OF THE WEEK: John 6:51

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

Theme of the Week: Food For Eternal Life

8 READ DAILY SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

SUN

2 Samuel 1:17-27; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 25:31-46

MON

2 Samuel 2:1-11; Acts 15:36-16:5; Mark 6:14-29

TUE

2 Samuel 3:6-21; Acts 16:6-15; Mark 6:30-46

WED

2 Samuel 3:22-39; Acts 16:16-24; Mark 6:47-56

THU

2 Samuel 4:1-12; Acts 16:25-40; Mark 7:1-23

FRI

2 Samuel 5:1-12; Acts 17:1-15; Mark 7:24-37

SAT

2 Samuel 5:22-6:11; Acts 17:16-34; Mark 8:1-10

9 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Gracious Father, Your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

10 READ INTRODUCTION TO PORTION OF CATECHISM FOR THIS WEEK

Confession And Absolution the Second Question “What is Private Confession?” – This is the second of three weeks that we are looking into the matter of Private Confession. An obvious question many will ask, “Is it necessary to have an intermediary to confess our sins to? Can’t we simply pray and confess our sins directly to Christ our Lord?” And the obvious answer, at least from a Lutheran perspective, is that we can and should confess directly to Christ. As Scripture clearly states, He alone is our mediator with God the Father (cf. 1 Timothy 2:5). But there can be great benefit in making our confession of sins to God in the hearing of a Pastor. As much as it appears that the confession is being spoken to the Pastor, it actually is being directed to God in the hearing of the Pastor! So what is the benefit? That an appointed ambassador of Christ, that is the Pastor, can speak audibly and directly the absolution to the one making the confession. This can be of obvious comfort in believing the promise that if we confess our sins God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins (cf. 1 John 1:9). Furthermore, the Pastor, as the Confessor, not only can speak the Word of Forgiveness in the stead of Christ, but he can also offer comfort and encouragement with further assurances from God’s Word.