

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the 22nd week after Trinity (Oct. 31st–Nov. 6th)

CATECHETICAL THEME:

8th Commandment

This Week's Catechetical Theme: 8th Commandment

With the Eighth Commandment, the LORD protects a person's name and reputation. In love and service to our neighbor, we are to speak in ways that uphold our neighbor's name, and his reputation. When we fail to defend our neighbor, or worse, when we speak in ways that harm his name and reputation, we sin against this commandment. Certain authorities must cast judgment, but the Scriptures teach us to speak the truth in love. We do not ignore sin, but we remember that love covers a multitude of sins, and we make every effort to put the best construction on everything, and to speak of our neighbors in the kindest way. God bless your time in God's 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: 8th Commandment

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	The Truth Will Set You Free John 8:31-36		Psalm 64
Monday	How to Speak to Your Brother Matthew 18:15-20	1 Cor. 4:14–5:8	Psalm 65
Tuesday	False Witness Proverbs 19:5	1 Cor. 5:9–6:11	Psalm 66
Wednesday	False Witness Against Jesus Mark 14:53-65	1 Cor. 6:12-20	Psalm 67
Thursday	Speaking the Truth Ephesians 4:15, 25	1 Cor. 7:1-24	Psalm 68
Friday	The Tongue Is a Fire James 3:5-12	1 Cor. 7:25-40	Psalm 69

Saturday	Revelation 7:2-17	1 John 3:1-3	Psalm 70
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Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** How does this passage teach us to treat our fellow Christian, even if he or she would sin against us? Are we encouraged to go tell everyone about it? How does this protect the reputation of our neighbor? How is this a loving work? **Tues:** What does this passage teach us about speaking falsely? Does this affirm Luther's meaning of the 8th Commandment? When we sin against the 8th Commandment, what do we deserve? **Wed:** What was the goal of the council; what did they intend to do to Jesus? What sort of witnesses were provided to speak against him? Who is the only person to speak the truth in this account? **Thurs:** How do these passages encourage us to speak to our neighbor? What does it mean to speak the truth "in love"? Do we speak in such a way as to harm our neighbor, or to help him? **Fri:** How does James describe the tongue? How is it that the tongue is dangerous? How can the tongue be used for good? How might we learn to control our tongue? What sort of words do we desire to speak to our neighbor? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will not escape. (Proverbs 19:5)

In Our Prayers this Week

Our Church: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Circuit 7 Vacancies:** Trinity Lutheran Church-Centralia. **For the Newly Married:** Trent and Katelyn Albers. **Those in Need of Healing:** Carolyn Freund. **Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Elbert Brink, Eddie Hermsmeyer, Glenn Knolhoff (undergoing lung cancer treatment). **Those Recovering From Surgery:** Mike Jones, Pat Borgelt (Angie Nolte's father). **Those Who Are Sick & Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Ariana Nolte, Barb Mueller, Randy Zimmermann, Rodney Tate, Connie Schilling. **Homebound Members:** Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Tim Hanke (11/3), Sharon Hanke (11/4), Hunter Childress (11/5), Kenzie Terry (11/6).

The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism

Hymn of the Week: Salvation unto Us Has Come (LSB 555)