

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following
the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
(September 24th – September 30th)*

CATECHETICAL THEME:

5th & 6th Commandments

This Week's Catechetical Theme: 5th & 6th Commandments

We continue our consideration of the Ten Commandments this week by focusing on the Fifth and Sixth Commandments. In the Fifth Commandment, God instructs us, "You shall not murder." The reason for this is that God is the author of life (Acts 3:15). He gives and He takes away (Job 1:21). As we confess in the Creed, He is the Lord and giver of life. He desires not the death of anyone (Ezek 18:32). To that end, to protect the lives which He gives, the LORD has given the Fifth Commandment. "You shall not murder," is God's revealed will that we are to protect and defend life in all its stages, from the very beginning, when it is conceived, to the very end, when death occurs. What the Lord gives is the Lord's to take away—not ours. And so, in the Fifth Commandment we learn to fear and love God so that we help and support our neighbor in every physical need.

Where God protects His gift of life in the Fifth Commandment, in the Sixth Commandment, the LORD upholds and protects the sacred institution of Holy Matrimony. Even before the fall into sin, the LORD had established one man and one woman to live together, forsaking all others, and to be devoted to one another. This was to be a comprehensive union of body, mind and spirit, from which life would flow as children were given. While the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh desires to tear down this holy union, the Sixth Commandment is God's Word by which He teaches His people to consider marriage as a gift of God, and honor it with our life and actions. 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 5th & 6th Commandments

You shall not murder.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

You shall not commit adultery.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Jesus Raises a Widow's Son Luke 7:11-17		Psalm 121
Monday	Cain and Abel Genesis 4:1-16	Ruth 2	Psalm 122
Tuesday	Joseph Sold by His Brothers Genesis 37:18-36	Ruth 3	Psalm 123
Wednesday	The LORD Institutes Marriage Genesis 1:26-31; 18-24	Ruth 4	Psalm 124
Thursday	Jesus' Teaching about Marriage Mark 10:2-9 (10)	1 Samuel 1	Psalm 125
Friday	Christ and the Church Ephesians 5:22-23	1 Samuel 2	Psalm 126
Saturday	Proverbs 25:6-14	Ephesians 4:1-6	Psalm 127

Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** How does Cain break the 5th Commandment? How had the sin already taken place in his heart before he killed his brother? Where does our hatred begin? How does God's protection of Cain teach us about life? **Tues:** How do Joseph's brothers feel about him? What do they plan to do? How did the brothers sin against the Fifth Commandment? **Wed:** Who establishes marriage? When did He establish marriage? Had sin yet entered into the world? How were Adam and Eve to treat one another? What would come forth from them? **Thur:** What question did the Pharisees ask Jesus? Why does Jesus say that the Old Testament people had been allowed to divorce? What does Jesus point them to? How is Jesus like a faithful husband? **Fri:** How are wives taught to relate to their husbands? In what role is the husband? How is Christ Himself the model for the husband? How then is the husband supposed to treat His wife? What is marriage given to be a picture of? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. (Psalm 139:13-14a)

In Our Prayers this Week

For Circuit Vacancies: Faith Lutheran (Flora), Trinity Lutheran (Iuka), Faith Lutheran (Mt. Vernon), Messiah Lutheran (Carlyle). **For Those Recovering From Surgery:** Matt Nolte, Curtis French. **For Those in Need of Healing:** Melba Nolte, Norma Rueter, Brandon Schrage, Kay Wheaton. **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** 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. **Homebound Members:** Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Camryn Nolte (9/27), Kathy Brink (9/30). **Anniversaries:** Kit & Marsha Milano (9/25), Darrin & Sherri Williams, Monica & Curtis French (9/26), Glen & Marilyn Edwards, Jeff & Bobbi Tyberendt (9/30).

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

Hymn of the Week: The Will of God Is Always Best (LSB 758)