

**Congregation at Prayer**  
**✠ The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost ✠**

*A Guide for Daily Family Prayer  
For the Week of June 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 9<sup>th</sup>*

Catechesis Notes for the Week...

Section 4 of the Catechism is intended to help you prepare for receiving the mystery of the Eucharist. They were prepared by Martin Luther for those intending to commune with our Lord's body and blood. And so, as it says at the very end,

*“These questions and answers are no child's play, but are drawn up with great earnestness of purpose by the venerable and devout Dr. Luther for both young and old. Let each one pay attention and consider it a serious matter; for St. Paul writes to the Galatians in chapter six: ‘Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked.’”*

We invite you to consider these 20 questions every week before approaching the altar of God. In this way you participate in what St. Paul calls, “*self-examination.*”

This is difficult. It's hard to step back and consider your own life, your own sins. Sometimes it's because we're moving so fast and in so many directions that we never take a break to consider who we are before God. That's what these questions are meant to do: slow you down. They're a call to faithfulness, faithful confession of sin, and faithful confession of belief. They give you the opportunity to say you're a sinner and that you deserve both temporal and eternal death. But they also give you the confession of Jesus—that He is your hope for eternal life. It's this faith that Luther says makes one truly worthy and well-prepared for the Sacramental feast.

Self-examination gives you the chance to consider your conscience. It lets you reflect on your burdens and your fears. It also instructs you on where to find a clean conscience. It's always and only in Jesus!

Recognizing who we are and who He is for us, we then partake of the body and the blood for our salvation. We receive worthily because we receive by faith. These questions are here to help prompt your faith to speak and believe all that Christ offers in the Sacrament.

Another helpful tool for this examination is the 10 Commandments. Considering each commandment in light of your vocations—as father, mother, wife, husband, child, employer, employee, etc—you'll be able to recognize the weight of your sin and the joyful exchange that comes in trading your yoke with that of Christ's. That's His invitation in the Supper:

*“Come to me all who are weary and heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.” (Mt 11:28)*

**Searching our Hearts...**

Responsive Prayer 2, *Lutheran Service Book* p.285

Learn-By-Heart Scripture...

**1 Corinthians 11:28**

*Let a person examine himself, then,  
and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.*

Learn-By-Heart Catechism...

**Christian Questions & Their Answers**

1. *Do you believe that you are a sinner?*  
Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.
2. *How do you know this?*  
From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.
3. *Are you sorry for your sins?*  
Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.
4. *What have you deserved from God because of your sins?*  
His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation. See Romans 6:21, 23.
5. *Do you hope to be saved?*  
Yes, that is my hope.
6. *In whom then do you trust?*  
In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.

Daily Readings...

*Monday (6/3): Ecclesiastes 11:1-10; John 10:22-42  
Tuesday (6/4): Ecclesiastes 12:1-14; John 11:1-16  
Wednesday (6/5): Proverbs 1:8-33; John 11:17-37  
Thursday (6/6): Proverbs 3:5-24; John 11:38-57  
Friday (6/7): Proverbs 4:1-27; John 12:1-19  
Saturday (6/8): Proverbs 5:1-23; John 12:20-36a  
Sunday (6/9): Proverbs 8:1-21; John 12:36b-50*

Prayer of the Week...

O God, by Your almighty Word You set in order all things in heaven and on earth. Put away from us all things hurtful, and give us those things that are beneficial for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Psalm of the Week...

*Psalm 86*

Hymn of the Week...

*“In the Very Midst of Life” 755*

Looking Forward to Next Week...

1 Kings 17:17-24

Galatians 1:11-24

Luke 7:11-17