

***The Congregation at Prayer***  
*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*  
*For the Week of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Michaelmas (Trinity 21)*  
*October 16-22, 2011*

***The Order of Meditation and Prayer***

*Pray and confess **out loud** 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.*

**Invocation:** In the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

**Apostles' Creed**

**Verse (Learn by heart)** Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. – Romans 3:20

**Psalm 119:1-8:** Read this Psalm **out loud** each day and/or one of the Psalms from the **Daily list:** 90; 146; 27; 91; 136; 119:105-112; 42

**Catechism (Learn by Heart): The 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment and Conclusion**

*What is the 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment?*

**You shall not covet your neighbors wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is his.**

Pre +

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God, so that we do not tempt, force, or coax away from our neighbor his wife or his workers, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

2<sup>nd</sup> +

*What does God say about these commandments?*

**I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments.** (Exodus 20:5-6)

1<sup>st</sup> +

**Catechism Hymn:** TLH 287, That Man a Godly Life Might Live, vv. 1-12

**Bible Stories and/or readings for the week from The Book of Family Prayer**

Day	Number	Reading	Old Testament Stories – Year A
S	410	John 4:46-53	The Sacrifice of Isaac – Genesis 22:1-19
M	412	Romans 4:18-25	A Bride for Isaac – Genesis 24:1-24
T	413	Matthew 16:1-4	Rebekah – Genesis 24:29-67
W	414	Hebrews 11:1-6	Esau Sells His Birthright – Genesis 25:19-34
Th	415	Mark 9:17-27	
F	416	Hebrews 10:19-25	
S	417	Psalms 57	

**Collect for the Week** (pray every day)

Lord, we beseech You to keep Your household, the Church, in continual godliness; that through Your protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve You in good works, to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

***Daily Themes for Prayer***

- Sun:** For the joy of the resurrection; for true and godly worship  
**Mon:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for your vocations and daily work; for the unemployed  
**Tues:** For aid against temptation and deliverance from sin; for the lonely, addicted, and depressed; for those enduring trial and affliction; for the aged and weak  
**Wed:** For marriage and family; for government, nation and community; for peace  
**Thurs:** For the church and her pastors; for the right use of Christ's Body and Blood  
**Fri:** For missions and missionaries; for the persecuted; for the heathen  
**Sat:** For faithfulness to the end; for those who have lapsed or fallen away from the faith; for the sick and dying; for a heart receptive to God's Word.

***In Our Prayers this Week***

***Lord's Prayer and the Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism***

***Hymn of the Week (sing or speak out loud each day):*** TLH 261

**Looking forward to the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Michaelmas (Trinity 22)** – October 23, 2011

***Chief Hymn:*** 321

***Lection:*** Micah 6:6-8; Philippians 1:3-11

† **St. Matthew 18:21-35** To “love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:6-8) is what the Lord says is good. It is a description of faith in Christ. The parable of the Unjust Servant (Matthew 18:21-35) teaches us that in the death of His Son, God has forgiven us a debt that we could not pay. To walk humbly with your God is to trust in the death of Christ by confessing one's sin and clinging to His forgiveness. To love mercy is to believe in Jesus' forgiveness as the most important gift we have from God through Christ. Forgiveness for those who have trespassed against us flows from our faith in Christ's undeserved forgiveness. To refuse to forgive those who trespass against us is a denial of faith in Christ and a rejection of His forgiveness. God forgives us freely by the merits of Jesus alone, that we might live in that free gift of forgiveness especially toward those who have sinned against us. This is “fellowship in the Gospel” (Philippians 1:3-11). It is the life of mercy and unconditional love that covers the sins of others with forgiveness freely and unbegrudgingly given.