THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

Jesus Makes Fishers of Men

1 Kings 19:11–21; 1 Peter 3:8–17; Luke 5:1–11

The Lord called fishermen to be fishers of men (Luke 5:1–11). The net they would use is the message of the cross, which is foolishness and a stumbling block to the world (1 Corinthians 1:18–25). The power of God to save is not in spectacular signs like wind and fire and earthquakes (1 Kings 19:11–21), nor is it to be found in human



intelligence and wisdom. The power of God to save comes in the still, small voice of the preaching of Christ crucified. In worldly darkness the disciples could catch nothing. But in the light of Christ, whose Word was attached to the water, the boats were filled with fish. In Holy Baptism you have been

drawn in to the ship of the Church. Though the nets are breaking and some who hear the Word do not believe, pastors continue to cast the net of the Gospel and the Sacraments, that Christians may abide in the boat of the Church and that we may be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks a reason for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:8–15).

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

INVOCATION (*make the sign of the holy cross and say*)

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the + life everlasting.

PSALMODY (sing or read out loud each day)

Psalm 16

LEARN BY HEART LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.

What is Baptism?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

DAILY READINGS

Sunday:	Psalm 4	Judges 16	Jeremiah 32	Mark 1
Monday:	Psalm 5	Judges 17	Jeremiah 33	Mark 2-3
Tuesday:	Psalm 6	Judges 18	Jeremiah 34	Mark 4:1-34
Wednesday:	Psalm 7	Judges 19	Jeremiah 35	Mark 4:35-5:43
Thursday:	Psalm 8	Judges 20	Jeremiah 36	Mark 6
Friday:	Psalm 9	Judges 21	Jeremiah 37	Mark 7:1-8:26
Saturday:	Psalm 10	Ruth 1	Jeremiah 38	Mark 8:27-9:50

PRAYERS

The following suggestions are offered as an aid in developing the habit of praying for ourselves and others each week:

<u>Sunday</u>: For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by Word and Sacrament.

<u>Monday</u>: For faith to live in the promise of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

<u>Tuesday</u>: For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

<u>Wednesday</u>: For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to God's Word; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

<u>Thursday</u>: For the Church and her pastors; for deacons, teachers, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

<u>Friday</u>: For faithful preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

<u>Saturday</u>: For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors as they prepare to administer and for people as they prepare to receive Christ's holy gifts.

O God, You have prepared for those who love You good things that surpass all understanding. Pour into our hearts such love toward You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

O Lord, look down from Heaven. Behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers: [insert the names of family members, friends, church members, government officials, those in need, etc.] Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy. Grant them comfort and sure confidence in You. Defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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.

Morning

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Evening

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit + be with us all.

Amen.