

**Daily Devotions for Home and Family**  
*For the Week of The Fifth Sunday of Easter*  
April 28 through May 4

**VIII. THE PERSON OF CHRIST**

<sup>75</sup> The histories tell us that during the time of Emperor Valens there was a peculiar sect among the Arians, called the Agnoetes, who taught that the Son, the Father's Word, indeed knows all things, but that according to his assumed human nature many things are unknown to him. Against this sect Gregory the Great also wrote.

<sup>76</sup> Because of this personal union and the resultant communion that the divine and human natures have with each other in deed and truth in the person of Christ, things are attributed to Christ according to the flesh that the flesh, according to its nature and essence outside of this union, cannot intrinsically be or have—for example, that his flesh is truly a life-giving food and his blood truly a quickening beverage, as the two hundred fathers of the Council of Ephesus attested when they stated that Christ's flesh is a life-giving flesh, whence only this man and no other human being in heaven and on earth can say truthfully, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them,"<sup>77</sup> likewise, "I am with you always even to the close of the age."

<sup>77</sup> We do not understand these testimonies to mean that only the deity of Christ is present with us in the Christian church and community and that this presence of Christ in no way involves his humanity. If that were true, Peter, Paul, and all the saints in heaven would also be with us on earth because the Godhead which is everywhere dwells in them. The Scriptures ascribe such presence only to Christ, and to no other human being.

<sup>78</sup> We believe that the cited passages illustrate the majesty of the man Christ, which Christ received according to his humanity at the right hand of the majesty and power of God, so that, also according to and with this same assumed human nature of his, Christ can be and is present wherever he wills, and in particular that he is present with his church and community on earth as mediator, head, king, and high priest. Not part or only one-half of the person of Christ, but the entire person to which both natures, the divine and the human, belong is present. He is present not only according to his deity, but also according to and with his assumed human nature, according to which he is our brother and we flesh of his flesh and bone of his bone (Eph. 5:30).

<sup>79</sup> To make certainty and assurance doubly sure on this point, he instituted his Holy Supper that he might be present with us, dwell in us, work and be mighty in us according to that nature, too, according to which he has flesh and blood. ~ FC, SD VIII:75-79

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

*Pray and confess out loud as much from this order as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate.  
Learn by heart the catechism and hymn each week.*

### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **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 sits 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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

### **Psalm – 150**

### **The Catechism – *Christian Questions With Their Answers***

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:**

Sunday, April 28 – Luke 11:37-54

Monday, April 29 – Luke 12:1-12

Tuesday, April 30 – Luke 12:13-34

Wednesday, May 1 – Luke 12:35-53 (*Feast of St. Philip and St. James, Apostles;*  
*suggested add'l reading: John 14:1-14)*

Thursday, May 2 – Luke 12:54—13:17 (*Commemoration of Athanasius of Alexandria, Pastor and Confessor*)

Friday, May 3 – Luke 13:18-35

Saturday, May 4 – Luke 14:1-24 (*Commemoration of Friedrich Wyneken, Pastor and Missionary*)

**Meditation** (*If you are using another devotional tool, such as Portals of Prayer, this would be an appropriate place to insert it*)

## Prayers

Let us pray...O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

O Lord, turn your eyes in mercy towards us...behold, visit, and relieve all Your servants who stand in need of prayer:

St. John's Lutheran Church; The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; The Rev. Matthew Harrison; The Atlantic District; The Rev. Dien Ashley Taylor; Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne; The Rev. Lawrence Rast; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; The Rev. Thomas Egger; The Concordia University System; Lutheran Parochial Schools; Our Sister Churches; All Pastors, Missionaries, and Church Workers; The Rev. Eric Stinnett & Family; The Rev. David & Barbara Bush; The United States of America; President Joseph Biden; The U.S. Congress and Senate; The Supreme Court Justices and all judges and magistrates; Governor Kathy Hochul; All State and locally elected officials; U.S. Military Personnel; All Fire, Police, and EMS workers and volunteers; Emily Arrasate; Rob Arrasate; Dotty Berk; Jackie Blydenburgh; Claire Bornholdt; Noel Brewer; Dan Bruno; Michael Carrano; Helene Conroy; Lucy Decker; John Demonte; Ed Doepp; Michael Emmel; Carol Fagan; Janet Firmery; Carol Foth; Bob Franco; Scott & Morgan Graham; Peter Hamilton; Arthur Holden; Marilyn Jorg; Joyce Keller; Tom Keller; Ben Leary; Dorothy Mistler; Olga Pabst; Barbara Reichling; Eileen Reiter; Alice Ryan; Peggy Salamone; Victor Santiago; Julia Schildt; Charlene Schneeberg; Bert Schneider; Judy Scott; Judy Smith; Michael Stewart; Pat Suriano; Gertrude Sutorius; Ingrid Vessie

**Armed Forces:** Gregory D'Alessandro; Emma Levine; Phillip Rappe; Brian Williams; Michael John Young

Look upon them with your grace and favor; grant them comfort and a sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger and keep them in perpetual peace and safety; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

### Morning or Evening Prayer

*(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. Amen.

*(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. Amen.

### Hymn for the Week – *Abide with Me*

*LSB #878, st. 6*

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

### Closing Blessing

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

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

**C** **Amen.**

### Looking ahead for The Sixth Sunday of Easter:

*Acts 10:34-48*

*1 John 5:1-8*

*John 15:9-17*