Responsive Prayer for Catechesis

L. Holy God, holy and most gracious Father, C. have mercy and hear us.

1. The Ten Commandments Preach Repentance

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife,

or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

He says: "I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments."

2. The Apostles' Creed Preaches the Faith

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 Christian church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

3. The Lord's Prayer Preaches the Holy Life

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. Amen.



Psalm 1:1-6

1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the <u>path</u> of sin-<u>ners</u>,

Nor sits in the seat of the scorn-ful;

2 But his delight is in the <u>law of</u> the <u>Lord</u>,

And in His law he med-i-tates day and night.

3 He shall be like a tree planted by the riv-<u>ers of wa-ter</u>, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he <u>does shall</u> pros-per.

4 The un-god-ly are not so,

But are like the chaff which the wind drives a-way.

5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand <u>in the judg-ment</u>, Nor sinners in the congregation <u>of the right-eous</u>. 6 For the Lord knows the way of the right-eous, But the way of the ungod-ly shall per-ish.

Glory be to the <u>Fa-ther</u> and to the <u>Son</u>, And to the <u>Ho-ly</u> Spir-<u>it</u>.

As it was in <u>the be-gin-ning</u>, Is now, and will be for-<u>ev-er</u>. A-<u>men</u>.

- L. The Lord be with you.
- C. And with your spirit.
- L. Let us pray.

Various petitions based on the reading just expounded.

- --Confession of our sins and sinfulness.
- --Requests for things that we now know we need.
- --Praise and Thanksgiving for who God is and what He has done.
- --The final petition
- V. The LORD will give strength to His people;
- **R.** The LORD will bless His people with peace. (Ps 29:11)

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. ["For Peace," LW, p.234]

- L. Let us bless the Lord.
- C. Thanks be to God.
- L. The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
- C. Amen.

The Collect for Peace, composed in the later half of the fifth century, is found in the Gelasian Sacramentary. It is unsurpassed in beauty and spiritual appeal. Each age has its own turbulent times in which we pray to be "defended from the fear of our enemies."

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Martin Luther and Elector Frederick the Wise Praying.

"This fight must be begun with repentance, and we must reform our lives, or we shall fight in vain.... After people have thus been taught and exhorted to confess their sin and amend their ways they should then be most diligently exhorted to prayer and shown that such prayer pleases God, that he has commanded it and promised to hear it, and that no one ought to think lightly of his own praying or have doubts about it, but with firm faith be sure that it will be heard; all of which has been published by us in many tracts. The man who doubts, or prays for good luck, would do better to let prayer alone because such prayer is merely tempting God and only makes things worse" (Luther's Works, v.46, p.171-172).

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