Memory Work

The Catechism -- The Catechism -- Confession
What is Confession? (by memory)
What sins should we confess?
Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

Memory Verses for the Week

Last week: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16
For this week: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalms 119:105
For next week: For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 2:5

Hymn of the Week: From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee
Thy love and grace alone avail
To blot out my transgression;
The best and holiest deeds must fail
To break sin's dread oppression.
Before Thee none can boasting stand,
But all must fear Thy strict demand
And live alone by mercy.

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the week of The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
September 18 - September 24, 2016

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 catechism and hymn of the 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 Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Psalm Psalm 119:1-6
Recite Memory Work (see back page)

Daily Readings
Sunday, September 18 - 1 Timothy 1:1-20; Warning Against False Teachers
Monday, September 19 - 1 Timothy 2:1-15; Pray for All People
Tuesday, September 20— 1 Timothy 3:1-16; Qualifications for Overseers
Wednesday, September 21 - 1 Timothy 4:1-16; Some Will Depart from the Faith
Thursday, September 22 - 1 Timothy 5:1-16; Instructions for the Church
Friday, September 23— 1 Timothy 5:17-6:2; Instructions for the Church
Saturday, September 24— 1 Timothy 6:3-21; False Teachers and True Contentment
Prayers

Let us pray: Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; 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, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers:

Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

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.

This week's Psalm

Psalm 119, the longest of the Psalms, may be the most repetitive of the Psalms. Its main theme is that God's Word is only our only trustworthy guide in this life. For that reason the Psalm is quoted 42 times in the Book of Concord. This sort of use of verse 105 seems about as Lutheran as you can get: "We believe, teach, and confess that the only rule and guiding principle according to which all teachings and teachers are to be evaluated and judged are the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testaments alone, as it is written, 'Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path!' (Psalm 119:105, ESV in Ap XII 49) . It is also reference many times to prove the third use of the Law, for example: "We unanimously believe, teach, and confess that, although Christians who believe faithfully have been truly converted to God, and have been justified are indeed freed and liberated from the curse of the law, they should daily practice the law of the Lord, as it is written in Psalm 119:35, 47, 70, 97" (FC SD VI 21, Kolb and Wengert).

The key to the first section, verses 1-6, is in verse 5. There the Psalmist slips into direct prayer. He is not simply stating facts about God's Word. He is asking God to direct his ways by the Spirit so that He would live according to the Word of God and not be put to shame. He wants the blessing of those who are blameless and who walk in the way of the Lord. The only way he gets that blessing is if it is bestowed upon him by mercy. If God does that for him, as, indeed God has promised, then he shall praise God and learn the law and know its goodness. So it is that this is also our prayer.