

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
September 13 through September 20, 2020*

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 90 — A Prayer of Total Reliance Upon the God of Creation for our Salvation—
Moses is the psalmist who pens Psalm 90. He recalls how the LORD had been the “dwelling place” of his people in all generations. This LORD, who called Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to faith, and who redeemed Israel from slavery, is none other than the God of creation. He created the heavens and the earth and brought forth the great mountains after the flood. The Lord is eternal, the great I AM. “A thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it is past.” Moses recalls the frailty of his sinful people. The age of a man is perhaps only 70 or 80 years. The LORD is just in His anger. But ultimately, the LORD who created all things is also the God of their salvation and the beauty of the Lord rests upon those who call upon His name.

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.

Theme: Seek First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness!

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 13:10

**Love does no harm to a neighbor;
therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.**

Psalm 90 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord God, heavenly Father, in the frailty of our short earthly life, teach us to call upon You in humble faith, to confess our sins, and to ever abide in the safety of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	147	148	1, 2	5	8, 9	10	14, 15	18
Evening	146	149, 150	3	4, 6	7	11, 12	13	16, 17

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	Jesus Cleanses the Ten Lepers—Luke 17:11-19	
Monday	The Day of Atonement—Leviticus 16:1-17 (18-19) 20-22, 34 Holy Cross Day—John 12:20-33	Hebrews 8:1-13
Tuesday	The Lord Commands a Census of Israel—Num. 1:1-4, 17-19, 45-54	Hebrews 9:1-10
Wednesday	The Levites Are Called to Serve as Priests—Numbers 3:1-16, 39-51	Hebrews 9:11-22
Thursday	The Priestly Blessing—Numbers 6:22-27	Hebrews 9:23-28
Friday	The Second Passover—Numbers 9:1-14	Hebrews 10:1-10
Saturday	The Widow of Zarephath—1 Kings 17:8-16	Gal. 5:25—6:10

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments— The Seventh and Eighth Commandments

What is the Seventh Commandment? You shall not steal.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.	First Grade +
What is the Eighth Commandment? You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.	Second Grade +

Prayers: Catechism Prayers, In Our Prayers at Peace, and the Collect for the Week

Prayers on the Seventh Commandment:

Heavenly Father forgive us our sins of stealing and strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Seventh Commandment You teach us that all of our possessions and income are gifts of your love. You have given us our daily work and earthly resources that we might serve our neighbor in need. For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins of selfishness and greed, of being stingy and making a god out of our money and possessions, of cheating others to get what we don't deserve, of being lazy in our daily tasks, and of working only for the benefit of ourselves. We thank You for the privilege of being able to share Your love and care for others through the daily work and temporal gifts You have given us. Grant us Your grace and compassion in Jesus that we might be faithful stewards of these gifts, using them according to Your will to help our neighbors in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayers on the Eighth Commandment:

Heavenly Father forgive us our sins of giving false testimony against our neighbor and strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything about him in the kindest way; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Most merciful God and Father, in the Eighth Commandment You teach us that a person's good name and reputation are gifts of your grace and that you desire them to be defended and protected by what we say. For Jesus' sake, forgive us for every form of lying, gossip, and slander which hurts our neighbor in the eyes of others. Forgive us for all the ways in which we pass judgment against our neighbor when we have not been given the authority to do so. Forgive us for failing to defend our neighbor when his good name and reputation are being attacked by others. By Your words of grace and mercy to us in Jesus, teach us to tell the truth in love, and strengthen us to cover our neighbor's sins with words of forgiveness and compassion: through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers this Week

Baptismal Birthdays: Alex Scheler, Joey Schneider (9/12), Jocelyn Bender (9/13), Bob Rothe, Pete Greschner, Christine Sawatzki, (9/14), Jeanne Scholz (9/15), Daniel Haga (9/16), Jacob Rank (9/17), Stan Heine, Matthew Bender, Kelsey DePue (9/18).

Wedding Anniversaries: Mark and Cheryl Gretzinger, Ed and Bernice Lemke (9/12) Lee and Cathie Weber (9/16), Del and Carl Duwe, Jason and Cathy Petersen (9/17).

The sick and recovering:

Brian Nienabor, David Ellestad, Luise Bollmeyer, Dan Schmitt, Charlie Dhein, Frank Koplring, Lenny Schrauth, Karl Stemke, Jeremy LaFore, David Berger, Roger Laubenstein, Harlan Petersen, Allison Witte

Those who mourn: the family and friends of Hilde Fischer, who mourn her death.

Collect for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, keep Your Church with Your perpetual mercy; and because of our frailty we cannot but fall, keep us ever by Your help from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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

Hymn of the Week

"Abide, O Dearest Jesus" (stanzas 1-2)

LSB 919

Looking forward to the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 20, 2020

Hymns: 869, 736, 760, 732, 719, 919

I Kings 17:8-16: The Lord provided for the widow of Zarephath. Daily bread that sustains the body is a gift of God's grace to all people. We are to learn through how He provides for us every moment of every day that He will surely provide us with the greater gifts of His salvation in Christ. The Lord not only provided daily bread for this widow and her son, but He also provided her with the one thing needful above all else: the Lord's saving Word.

Galatians 5:25-6:10: St. Paul describes the life of faith in the grace of God in Christ: We seek to restore those who have fallen from the faith; we bear one another's burdens; we live in humility toward one another, considering others as better than ourselves; we support our ministers and those who teach us the life-giving Word of God with in the Church; and we take every opportunity to do good to all, especially to those of the household of faith, because that is what Christ has done for us.

Matthew 6:24-34: In our Baptism we are placed IN CHRIST, so that all that He is and has done for us might be ours and so that we might live confidently and joyfully IN CHRIST. This Sunday's Gospel is a section of the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus catechizes us on the First Commandment: You shall have no other gods! According to the First Commandment, we are to depend upon God and trust in Him for everything without doubting. We cannot serve two masters. Worry does not give us the food to eat, the clothes to wear, or the protection we need. If God takes care of the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, then God will take care of us. How comforting it is to know and learn to believe that God's care for us is NOT dependent upon our strength of faith. The conclusion of this section invites us to "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" and we will be freed from all the anxiety of life. This final word directs us to Jesus. He ushers in God's kingdom. His suffering and death upon the cross for us is "the righteousness of God" that covers all our sin. The more our faith is fixed upon Him and all that He has done for us, the more the idolatry of worry and anxiety of life flees from us. It is in Jesus that we see the perfect man of faith. He fears, loves, and trusts in His Father above all things. Because He did this for us, we are clothed with a more glorious garment than the lilies of the field and we are fed with a food that is more nourishing than anything this creation has to offer. "Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things."