

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity  
August 29 through September 5, 2021*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 122: A Prayer for the City of God**—What is the Lord’s city on earth? It is the Church of Jesus Christ, the congregation of all the baptized faithful among whom the Gospel is preached, and the Sacraments are administered. When David prays for “the house of the Lord,” Jerusalem, and the palaces of the Lord we should understand that this refers to the Church. At the heart of the “City of God” on earth is faith and the gift of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of all believers, but it has very real and concrete outward expressions. Confessing before the world, public preaching, the Sacraments, and the gathering together of the baptized faithful to receive these gifts is how the outward ministry of Word and Sacraments creates and nourishes the gift of faith in Christ and the fruits of love to others. So, David prays, “I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go into the house of the Lord.’ Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem! Our Divine service is that “Jerusalem” and “House of the Lord” today. David not only recognized the necessity to gather together to receive God’s gifts, but He rejoiced to do so because the Lord’s Word and Sacraments are the source of salvation and comfort for every Christian. Many tribes and nations flood into the Church. We rejoice in the testimony of the Lord’s blood shed for our forgiveness. We pray for the peace of the Church and the prosperity of all who enter into her.

## The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess 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: Christ Is Our Good Samaritan!

### Invocation

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

### Apostles’ Creed

#### Verse: Psalm 111:10

**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
A good understanding have all those who do His commandments,  
His praise endures forever.**

#### Psalm 122 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

**Prayer on the Psalm:** Most merciful God and Father, we rejoice to gather together in the House of the Lord to receive Your Word and to be strengthened in our faith by the body and blood of our Savior. Give peace to Your holy Church on earth and prosper the preaching of the Gospel that many from all tribes and nations may enter through her gates to the joy of salvation in Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	137, 138	140, 141	144	147	148	1, 2	5	8, 9
Evening	139	142, 143	145	146	149, 150	3	4, 6	7

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>The Parable of the Good Samaritan—Luke 10:23-37</b> <b>Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist—Mark 6:14-29</b>	
Monday	David Saves the City of Keilah—1 Samuel 23:1-13	1 Timothy 4:6-16
Tuesday	David Hides in the Wilderness—1 Samuel 23:14-29	1 Timothy 5:1-16
Wednesday	David Spares Saul’s Life—1 Samuel 24:1–25:1	1 Timothy 5:17-25
Thursday	David and Abigail—1 Samuel 25:2-44	1 Timothy 6:1-11
Friday	David Spares Saul’s Life a Second Time—1 Samuel 26:1-25	1 Timothy 6:11-21
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Proverbs 4:10-23	Galatians 5:16-24

### The Catechism: The Ten Commandments— The Third and Fourth Commandments

<i>What is the Third Commandment?</i> <b>Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.</b>	Preschool +
<i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.	First Grade +
<i>What is the Fourth Commandment?</i> <b>Honor your father and your mother.</b>	Preschool +
<i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.	First Grade +

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

### **Prayers on the Third Commandment:**

Heavenly Father, we are to make every day holy by hearing, studying, and meditating upon Your Word. Forgive us our sins against the Third Commandment. Strengthen us by Your Word and Spirit so that we do not despise preaching and Your Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it throughout our lifetime, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Heavenly Father, in the Third Commandment You teach us that Your Word makes our lives and the day of worship holy. Your Word creates repentance and faith in Christ in our hearts. Your Word gives us true help, comfort, peace, and strength. Your Word brings Jesus to us with all the blessings of His salvation. Thank You for the rest and peace Your Word gives. For Jesus' sake, forgive us for despising preaching and Your Word. Grant us to hold Your Word sacred and to gladly hear and learn it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **Prayers on the Fourth Commandment:**

Heavenly Father forgive us for not honoring our parents. Strengthen our faith in Jesus so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord God, heavenly Father, in the Fourth Commandment you teach us that our parents are Your gifts to us. Through them You gave us life and through them You care for us and provide us with all that we need. Thank You for our father and mother. Forgive them when they sin and strengthen them with Your grace to be faithful parents. Forgive us for every sin of disobedience, disrespect, and dishonor shown to our parents and all those in authority over us. By Your grace, help us truly to honor our parents, especially when they fail, and to always serve and obey, love and cherish them according to Your Word and for Jesus' sake; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **In Our Prayers this Week**

**The Office of the Ministry:** Rev. Matthew Uttenreither installed today at Ascension Lutheran Church in Niles, IL; and the Lord's guidance and blessing upon our calling of an Associate Pastor and headmaster.

**Baptismal Birthdays:** Charlie Dhein (8/29), Lindsey Kenyon (8/30), Noah DePue (9/1), Sue Kaminski, Daniel Laubenstein (9/4).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Rev. Gary and Susan Gehlbach, Kevin and Rachel Ruehle (8/29) Brian and Melissa Brendel (9/4).

**Thanksgiving for Sustaining Grace:** Jim Nitzsche, Jeremy LaFore, Aburuyeba Amaso, Kevin Kehres, and Luise Bollmeyer.

**The sick:** Dave Spitzenberger, friend of John & Kay Trapp hospitalized and undergoing testing.

**Cancer treatment:** Gabby Hartwig continuing treatment for childhood cancer; James Loker, liver cancer.

### **Collect for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and charity; and that we may obtain what You have promised, make us love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist (8/29)**

Almighty God, You gave Your servant John the Baptist to be the forerunner of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in both his preaching of repentance and his innocent death. Grant that we, who have died and risen with Christ in Holy Baptism, may daily repent of our sins, patiently suffer for the sake of the truth, and fearlessly bear witness to His victory over death; through the same Jesus Christ, 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**

#### **"Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide" (stanzas 1-4)"**

585

#### **Looking forward to the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**

**September 5, 2021**

**Hymns:** 797, 849, 790, 595, 636 (5-8), 794

**Proverbs 4:10-23:** The path of life is to abide in the life-giving Word of God, the instruction of the Holy Scriptures.

**Galatians 5:16-24:** When the Bible talks about "walking" it is talking about faith in Christ and the life of faith. To "walk in the Spirit" is to continue in the life of repentant faith in Christ, who loved us and gave Himself for us. Walking in the Spirit means that we are led by the Holy Spirit through the divine Word to flee continually from self to Christ. To "walk in the flesh" is to continue to indulge the appetites of the Old Adam, without contrition and repentance. Faith and unbelief are in constant warfare. It is why Paul says, "the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish." From the flesh flows all manner of evil. From a life lived by faith in the Gospel, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."

**Luke 17:11-19:** Universal grace is the doctrine that God loves the entire world in Christ and not just a selected few. In the account of the cleansing of the Ten Lepers we see Jesus cleansing not just the one Samaritan who returned to Him in faith and thanksgiving, but all ten. In the same way we learn that Christ died for all sinners, even though many will reject His gift in impenitence and unbelief. The Old Testament Law included provisions for lepers to be brought back into the community of faith if they were cleansed of their disease. When Jesus told the cleansed lepers to show themselves to the priests as a testimony to them in accordance with the Law, He wanted to demonstrate that the One who is the source of cleansing had come, and that He had not come to set aside the Law, but to fulfill it. Ironically, it was the Samaritan that recognized the true nature of Jesus' miracle. Jesus hadn't merely healed him of a physical disease; Jesus was the source of all salvation as the One who fulfilled the Law for all people. Thanksgiving is the fruit of repentant faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord.