

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity  
September 26 through October 3, 2021*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 126: A Prayer of Rejoicing for the Lord Bringing Us Back from Captivity—Psalm 126, one of the psalms of Ascents, celebrates the return of the exiles to Jerusalem after the Babylonian Captivity. As the descendants of those who had rebelled against the Lord, they recognized the Lord’s faithfulness and gift of salvation that neither they nor their descendants deserved. They were overwhelmed with happiness and overflowed with joy. “Our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing...The Lord has done great things for them. The Lord has done great things for us, wherefore we are glad.” Psalm 126 reminds us of the important lesson that the Lord is always faithful to those who cling to Him in faith, which includes those who have returned to Him in contrition and repentance. “Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy.” We pray psalm 126 with our Old Testament brothers and sisters for the many ways in which the Lord has been faithful to us to call from our wayward ways back to Him who is our life and salvation.**

## **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: Jesus Is Our Sabbath Rest!**

### **Invocation**

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

### **Apostles’ Creed**

#### **Verse: Romans 3:20**

**By the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight,  
for by the law is the knowledge of sin.**

#### **Psalm 126 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.**

**Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord Jesus, You who are the way, the truth, and the life. We rejoice in Your salvation and sing aloud of Your faithfulness to us in calling us to repentance and never failing to forgive our sin and restore our life with You; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	66	68	71	73	75, 76	78	80	82, 84
Evening	67, 70	69	72	74	77	79	81	83

### **Bible Readings for the Week:**

	<b>Bible Narrative</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>
Sunday	<b>Jesus Heals the Man with Dropsy on the Sabbath—Luke 14:1-11</b>	
Monday	David Appoints Solomon to Succeed Him—1 Kings 1:1 (2-27) 28-35	James 3:1-12
Tuesday	Solomon Prays for Wisdom—1 Kings 3:1-15	James 3:13-18
Wednesday	Solomon’s Wise Judgment—1 Kings 3:16-28 <b>St. Michael and All Angels—Revelation 12:7-12</b>	James 4:1-12
Thursday	Solomon’s Kingdom—1 Kings 4:1, 20-34	James 4:13-17
Friday	Solomon Prepares to Build the Temple—1 Kings 5:1-18	James 5:1-12
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Deuteronomy 10:12-21	1 Corinthians 1:1-9

### **The Catechism: The Ten Commandments — Review of the Commandments and the Close of the Commandments**

<i>What are the Ten Commandments? You shall have no other gods...etc.</i>	Preschool +
<i>What does God say about all these commandments?</i> <b>He says:</b> <b>“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.”</b> [Ex. 20:5-6]	First Grade +
<i>What does this mean?</i> God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.	Preschool +

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

### **Prayers on the Close of the Commandments:**

*Almighty God, You threaten to punish all who break Your commandments. Therefore, help us to fear Your wrath and not do anything against them. But You also promise grace and every blessing to all who keep Your commandments. Therefore, forgive us our sins and strengthen our faith in Jesus, so that we love and trust in You and gladly do what You command. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

*Lord God, heavenly Father, apart from You we have no life or salvation, therefore You are a jealous God, desiring us to fear, love, and trust in You above all things. You punish children for the sin they share in and have committed from their fathers, that they might be brought to repentance and faith in Jesus for the forgiveness of sins. You show love and mercy to those who love You and keep Your commandments, therefore, grant us true repentance and forgive us every sin against Your holy Law that we might cheerfully love You and gladly do what You command, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

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

**The Office of the Ministry:** *The Lord's guidance and blessing upon our calling of an Associate Pastor and Headmaster.*

**Baptismal Birthdays:** *Travis Dubnicka, August Christopherson, Ben Banasik (9/26), Breanna Hertzberg, Donna Aufdemberge (9/28), Christine Dubnicka, George Kaminski (9/9), Melissa Brendel (9/30), Evan Hertzberg, Jeff Meehan (10/1), Doreen Corso (10/2).*

**Wedding Anniversaries:** *Ed and Michele Ratzlaff (9/28), Pat and Kate Handlos, Kevin and Sherry Larson, John and Pam Lehman (9/29), Don and Rosanne Fell (9/30).*

**Thanksgiving for Sustaining Grace:** *Jim and Cathy Verage, Jim Nitzsche, Jeremy LaFore, and Luise Bollmeyer, and Del Duwe.*

**Sick:** *Fritz Theilacker, hospitalized in Waukesha. Dick Grono hospitalized after a fall. Shirley Freckmann recovering from a stroke and her husband Jerry moving to assisted living. Jan Wollin and Aaron Piper recovering from surgery.*

**Cancer treatment:** *Gabby Hartwig (childhood cancer), Aburuyeba Amaso (breast cancer), James Loker (liver), Rev. David Oberdieck (kidney), Rev. Dr. John Wille (prostate), Rev. Michael Pfungsten (lymphoma), Barb Wieting (testing for cancer)*

**Hospice Care:** *Betty Eakin, Don Fell's sister.*

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

*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.*

### **Collect for St. Michael and All Angels (Sept. 29)**

*Everlasting God, You have ordained and constituted the service of angels and men in a wonderful order. Mercifully grant that, as Your holy angels always serve and worship You in heaven, so by Your appointment they may also help and defend us here on earth; through Your Son, 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**

### **"Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying" (stanzas 1-5)**

597

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

**October 3, 2021**

**Hymns: 597, 694, 745, 844, 919, 838**

**Deuteronomy 10:12-21:** *Moses teaches the children of Israel that the essence of the Law is fulfilled in love. This love for God above all else always results in a compassion and care for others ahead of oneself. As the Lord rescued, saved, and showed mercy to the Israelites in their redemption from slavery of Egypt, so they were to show the Lord's love and mercy to the stranger in the land.*

**I Corinthians 1:1-9:** *Paul's greeting of the congregation at Corinth encourages them to rely upon the grace of God which shall provide for all their needs as a congregation. He confirms us in the faith and He is faithful to us in the call of the Gospel that has brought us into fellowship with Christ, our Lord.*

**Matthew 22:34-46:** *Jesus was confronted by many who did not believe in Him. In this Gospel the Pharisees, who had heard He had silenced the Sadducees, took their turn to challenge Jesus about the Old Testament teaching on the Law. They asked Him, "What is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus answers reveals that, according to the Old Testament, love for God above all things is the greatest commandment and that love for the neighbor as oneself follows love for God. The Pharisees knew that Jesus answered correctly, but for them following God's law was about manipulating God into doing for them what they desired, rather than understanding that the law calls for a love for God and for the neighbor that we cannot fulfill. The Old Testament law and prophets hang on these two commandments because Jesus, the Son of God, and the Son of David, is the fulfillment of the law of love in his sacrifice for us upon the cross. His love for God and the neighbor does not move Him to look out for Himself but to serve us. By His service He shows Himself to be the greater Son of David and the promised Messiah. Because of Jesus' love for the Father and for us, the Father will place all enemies under Jesus' feet, and He will sit forever at the Father's right hand. For the Pharisees, the Law of God was about achieving what they wanted. For Jesus', God's Law was fulfilled in His self-denial for us.*