

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity  
October 3 through October 10, 2021*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 127: The Lord Alone Preserves the Family**—Without the Lord “building” our marriages, homes, and families by His gracious Word and Spirit we can accomplish nothing of lasting value or worth. Psalm 127 gives all glory and honor to the Lord as the one who builds, establishes, and protects our families and the city in which we dwell. Our efforts, apart from faith and prayer, accomplish nothing. “It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows; for so He gives His beloved sleep.” This psalm of Ascent paints a beautiful picture that contrasts our striving apart from the Lord’s Word and faith with the rest that the Lord alone gives to His beloved who trust in Him. Furthermore, Psalm 127 speaks against the prevailing wisdom of our age by extolling children as a precious gift from God. “Children are a heritage from the Lord...Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them.” Even though God has given us work to do in our station in life, happiness, contentment, and peace comes, not from our striving, but from the gifts and provisions that Lord provides in Christ to sustain us. Those who trust in Him will never be put to shame and will triumph over their enemies.

## 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:

### Invocation

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

### Apostles’ Creed

#### Verse: 1 John 4:9

**In this the love of God was manifested toward us,  
that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world,  
that we might live through Him.**

### Psalm 127 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

**Prayer on the Psalm:** Heavenly Father, grant us to see that marriage, children, and family are precious gifts from You to be received in faith, and that we are to rely upon You alone to build our homes and protect us. Give us confident faith in Your holy Word to bless and sustain us, for unless the Lord builds the house, we labor in vain who attempt to secure our future on our own; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	82, 84	85	88	89	91	92	95, 96	98, 100
Evening	83	86	87	90	93	94	97	99

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>The Greatest Commandment—Matthew 22:34-46</b>	
Monday	Solomon Builds the Temple—1 Kings 6:1, 7, 11-30	James 5:13-20
Tuesday	The Ark of the Covenant Is Brought into the Temple—1 Kings 8:1-21	1 Thess. 1:1-10
Wednesday	Solomon’s Prayer at the Temple Dedication—1 Kings 8:22-40	1 Thess. 2:1-12
Thursday	God’s Word to Solomon—1 Kings 9:1-9	1 Thess. 2:13-20
Friday	The Queen of Sheba and Solomon’s Wealth—1 Kings 10:1-13	1 Thess. 3:1-13
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Genesis 28:10-17	Ephesians 4:22-28

### The Catechism: The Creed—The First Article

What is the First Article of the Creed?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God has made me and all creatures;  
that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members,  
my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.  
He also gives me clothing and shoes,  
food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have.

Preschool +

First Grade +

He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.  
He defends me against all danger  
and guards and protects me from all evil.  
All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy,  
without any merit or worthiness in me.  
For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.  
This is most certainly true.

Second Grade +

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

#### **Prayer on the First Article**

*Heavenly Father, You are God Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Creator and Sustainer of all things. We give thanks to You that you have made us and all creatures; that You have given us our bodies and souls, eyes, ears, and all our members, our reason and all our senses, and that You still take care of them. You also give us clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all we have. You richly and daily provide us with all that we need to support us in our body and life. You defend us against all danger and guard and protect us from all evil. All this You do for us out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. Grant us, through the grace of Your only-begotten Son, to believe that this is most certainly true, and to ever thank and praise, serve and obey You as long as we live. In Jesus' name. 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:** *Pat Rothe, Benjamin Volquardsen, John Franklin (10/3), Jon Leider (10/5), Debbie Christopherson, Philip Gehlbach, Lois Scaffidi (10/7), Russell Sawatzki, Rachel Haga (10/8), Jim Wollin (10/9).*

**Wedding Anniversaries:** *Dave and Anna Steinhilb (10/4), Kent and Christine Franklin (10/5), Jim and Faith Daleiden (10/6), Dean and Kristi Hertzberg, Ted and Kristin Dhein (10/9).*

**The Sick:** *Fritz Theilacker, hospitalized in Waukesha; Nicola Giordano, Kevin and Sherry Larson, Jim and Cathy Verage, Jason and Cathy Petersen, in various stages of Covid treatment; Jim Nitzsche, Jeremy LaFore, Luise Bollmeyer in continued care, Shirley Freckmann recovering from a stroke and she and husband Jerry receiving in-home therapy; Jan Wollin in therapy after surgery.*

**Cancer treatment:** *Gabby Hartwig (childhood cancer), Aburuyeba Amaso (breast cancer), James Loker (liver).*

**Those Who Mourn:** *the family of Dick Grono and the family of Betty Eakin, Don Fell's sister.*

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

*O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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**

**"Alleluia! Let Praises Ring" (stanzas 1-3)**

822

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

**October 10, 2021**

**Hymns: 686, 708, 822, 599, 814, 922**

**Genesis 28:10-17:** *In Jacob's dream at Bethel, the Lord came to him and reaffirmed the promise of salvation through the coming Messiah: "in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed." This is why Jacob confessed, "Surely the Lord is in this place...How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" Wherever the saving Word of the Gospel is proclaimed, THERE is the very presence of the Lord Himself for the salvation of His people. The Lord's Word is our comfort too: "I am the Lord God of Abraham...I am with you and will keep you wherever you go..."*

**Ephesians 4:22-28:** *The Holy Spirit renews our faith and life in Christ through His Word of grace and mercy in Jesus.*

**Matthew 9:1-8:** *A paralyzed man is the perfect image of humanity who cannot save itself from the bondage and paralysis of sin. The paralytic had to be brought to Jesus. We have to be brought to Jesus. His greatest problem was not physical paralysis, but the problem of sin which was the cause of all his maladies. It is the same for us. Jesus' word addressed the real problem: "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." It is this word that the self-righteous scribes objected to. They accused Jesus of blasphemy: using the power of God that He had no right to use. They were wrong. Jesus had the authority to forgive sins because He came into the world to pay the ultimate price for sin. The scribes had no power to make a man walk or to take away a man's sin. It was impossible for them. It is impossible for us. But Jesus had the power to do both. To teach them that He had the power to forgive sins, He made the man to arise and walk. What none of us could do, Jesus did. He has now given the power to forgive sins to His Church, so that paralyzed and broken sinners might be set free and reconciled to God. "When the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men." Thanks be to God that Jesus power and authority to forgive sins is found in the Church where His Gospel is preached and His sacraments are administered. In Christ's absolution, sinners are set free from bondage and reconciled to God.*