

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity  
October 10 through October 17, 2021*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 128: A Prayer of Blessing for Those Who Fear the Lord**—Psalm 128 is a companion psalm to 127, which extols the gift of marriage and children. The foundation for God’s blessing in the home is the fear of the Lord and walking in His ways. To do what God has given us to do, according to His Word, gives great satisfaction. “When you eat the labor of your hands, you shall be happy, and it shall be well with you.” The fruitfulness of the wife for a faithful Christian husband is not only in the children she bears but, as she receives the love of her husband, she has the capacity and blessing of bearing the fruit of faithful love and service for her children. When the fear of the Lord is the foundation of family life, children are like olive plants around the table. “Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD.” The references to Zion and Jerusalem indicate that the Lord’s blessing comes from His Church through the comforting preaching and life-giving gifts of the Sacraments. Those who fear the Lord gather regularly to receive His peace in the Divine Service.

## 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: Be of Good Cheer, Your Sins Are Forgiven

### Invocation

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

### Apostles’ Creed

**Verse: Psalm 139:13-14a**

**You formed my inward parts;  
You covered me in my mother’s womb.  
I will praise You,  
for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.**

**Psalm 128 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.**

**Prayer on the Psalm:** Heavenly Father, bless our homes and families as we live by faith in Your Word and walk in Your ways. Give us true and godly fear, through faith in Your Son, that we might abide in Your peace all the days of our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, 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	98, 100	101	103	105	107	109	112, 113	115
Evening	99	102	104	106	108	110, 111	114	116

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>The Healing of the Paralytic—Matthew 9:1-8</b>	
Monday	Solomon’s Heart Turns from the LORD—1 Kings 11:1-13	1 Thess. 4:1-12
Tuesday	Solomon’s Death & the Revolt Against Rehoboam—1 Kgs 11:41–12:19	1 Thess. 4:13-18
Wednesday	Jeroboam and the Golden Calves—1 Kings 12:20-33	1 Thess. 5:1-11
Thursday	The Man of God Comes to Bethel—1 Kings 13:1-34	1 Thess. 5:12-28
Friday	<b>No School—Fall Break</b>	Proverbs 1:20-33
Saturday	Sunday’s OT and Epistle—Isaiah 55:1-9	Ephesians 5:15-21

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

What is the First Article of the Creed? <b>I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.</b>	Preschool +
<i>What does this mean?</i> 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.	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**

Lord God, heavenly Father, in the First Article of the Creed You teach us that You are the God of self-giving love. You have created us and all things out of Your fatherly divine goodness and mercy. We give thanks to You for all that You have made, for every gift of body and soul, for our talents and abilities, and for all that You have given us to preserve us each day and to make our lives enjoyable. You richly and daily provide us with all that we need to support us in this body and life, and You defend us against all danger and guard and keep us from all evil. Forgive us for not trusting in You, for failing to give thanks for all Your gifts of creation, and for not using Your gifts in loving service to others. Strengthen us by Jesus' forgiveness and love to rejoice in all that You have made and to ever thank and praise, serve and obey You all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### **Thanksgiving for God's Creation**

Heavenly Father, Your Word gives life and has created and sustains all things. We thank You for the sun, the moon, and the stars which give light to the earth and order our days and seasons. We give thanks to You for the expanse of the sky, for the water that sustains all of life, and for the dry land upon which we live. We give thanks to You for the plants and animals of Your creation. You have given all of this to us for our good and for our enjoyment. We give thanks to You that You have created us in Your image, male and female, to be fruitful and multiply, and to have dominion over the creation. We thank You for ordering our lives and giving us rest and refreshment through Your Word. But most of all, we thank You for redeeming us and all of creation from sin and death through the gift of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to trust in You as our Creator and to believe in Your Son for eternal life and salvation, through the same Jesus Christ, 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:** *Jan Wollin (10/14).*

**Wedding Anniversaries:** *Kurt and Cyndi Ruhnau (10/10).*

**The Sick:** *Brett Arnold, friends of the Trapps, hospitalized with complication following kidney transplant surgery, Cathy Petersen, hospitalized with pneumonia; Fritz Theilacker, Julie Goltermann, Nicola Giordano, Jason Petersen in various stages of Covid recovery; Jim Nitzsche, Jeremy LaFore, Luise Bollmeyer in continued care;*

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

**Those Who Mourn:** *The family of Landis Trubach, grandfather of Staci Anderson, who died 10/7.*

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

Almighty and merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep from us all things that may hurt us that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever You would have us do; 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**

#### **"Father Most Holy" (stanzas 1-4)**

504

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

**October 17, 2021**

**Hymns:** 504, 647, 430, 828, 568, 912

**Isaiah 55:1-9:** *The Lord, through the prophet Isaiah, emphasizes that the message of the Gospel is, at its core, the message of salvation for sinners by grace alone. Salvation cannot be purchased with our money or good works; it must be received by faith from that One, our Savior, who has done all for us. "My thoughts are not your thoughts", says the Lord" is a reference to the fact that human thoughts always tend to be governed by works-righteousness when it comes to salvation and that God's thoughts are always governed by grace. It is precisely because His thoughts toward us are governed by grace that we may "Seek the Lord ..." and "Call upon Him" in every need and struggle with sin.*

**Ephesians 5:15-21:** *"Walking" is used throughout the Scriptures as a euphemism for faith. This is because faith in Christ is characterized by all kinds of external things that create and sustain faith as well as give expression to that faith outwardly. We are "followers" of Jesus. We listen to His Word. We pray, we worship, we confess, and we live in Christ's forgiveness with others. These are real expressions of our faith in Christ as "followers" of Jesus. We do NOT follow the beliefs, ways, and practices of the world because we do NOT believe in these things. This helps us understand Paul's catechesis in this week's epistle: "See then that you walk circumspectly [carefully], not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation [pouring out your faith upon the ground]; but be filled with the Spirit [who fills us through the ongoing hearing of the Word of God], speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ."*

**Matthew 21:33-44:** *The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers is a parable of judgment against the Jews for their rejection of the Gospel. First, the Lord delivered them from slavery in Egypt and made of them a great nation, but they continually turned from Him. Then, He sent them the prophets to call them to repentance, but they persecuted and killed the prophets and refused to listen. Lastly, He sent them His Son, and they delivered Him to be crucified. Because of their impenitence, the judgment of God fell upon them, and the Gospel was preached to the Gentiles. Israel's rejection of the Gospel of Christ resulted in the Gospel being preached to the Gentiles as a testimony to the truth of God's promise to Abraham that in Christ all the nations of the earth would be blessed. For the sake of the Gentiles who would come to faith, Jesus quoted from Psalm 118:22-23, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD'S doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes."*