

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
 For the Seventh Sunday after Trinity  
 July 14, 2024, through July 21, 2024

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 47: A Prayer on the Ascension of Our Lord**—Psalm 47 is traditionally prayed in celebration of the Ascension of our Lord. After Jesus had defeated sin, death, and the power of the devil through His suffering and death upon the cross, God the Father highly exalted Him and seated Him at His right hand, placing all His enemies under His feet. Christ continues to reign over all things at the Father’s right hand for the sake of His Church and He will come again in glory to receive His bride to Himself. So, we sing with the psalmist: “God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding. God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.”

## 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: Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread!

### Invocation

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

### Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Romans 15:13

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
 that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 47 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

**Prayer on the Psalm:** Almighty God, as Your only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, 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	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	<b>The Feeding of the 4,000—Mark 8:1-9</b>	
Monday	Paul Begins His Testimony to King Agrippa—Acts 26:12-32	Romans 15:7-13
Tuesday	Paul’s Voyage to Rome Begins—Acts 27:1-12	Romans 15:14-21
Wednesday	Paul’s Ship Is Caught in Violent Seas—Acts 27:13-38	Romans 15:22-33
Thursday	Paul Is Shipwrecked on the Island of Malta—Acts 27:39—28:10	Romans 16:1-16
Friday	Paul’s Ministry at Rome—Acts 28:11-31	Romans 16:17-27
Saturday	The Beginning of the Gospel According to St. Mark—Mark 1:1-13	Jeremiah 1:4-10

### The Catechism: The Lord’s Prayer— Fourth Petition

What is the Fourth Petition? <b>Give us this day our daily bread.</b>	Preschool +
What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.	First Grade +
What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.	Second Grade +

**Prayers: Collect for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, and In Our Prayers at Peace**

**Collect for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

*O God, whose never-failing providence orders all things both in heaven and earth, we humbly implore You to put away from us all hurtful things and to give us those things that are profitable for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Daily Themes for Prayer — “Let us pray...”**

- Sunday:** For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.
- Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.
- Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.
- Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.

**In Our Prayers this Week — “Let us pray for...”**

**Baptismal Anniversaries:** Meghan Krueger (7/14), Ryder Richards, Silas Christiansen (7/16), Elizabeth Bender, Mary Bender (7/18), Talitha Schneider (7/20).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Patrick & Sierra Meyer (7/15), Bob & Amy Gierach (7/16), Jim & Karen Frerking (7/19).

**Birth:** Monica Rose – newborn daughter of Andrew & Jocelyn Bender.

**The Sick:** Beth Petersen (mother of Jason Petersen) following knee surgery, George Kaminski after hospitalization, Carol Bender (rehab), Rev. Dan McMiller (stage IV kidney disease): Jeanette Kellar, Jim Cardo, Rick Schuerman, Bill Spilger, Rev. Luke Boehringer, Jean Reuss, and Gabby Hartwig for cancer. **Those in Hospice:** Yet Ngor Wong (grandmother-Nicola Giordano).

**Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.**

**Hymn of the Week**

**“Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”**

819

**Looking forward to the Eighth Sunday after Trinity**

**July 21, 2024**

**Hymns: 578, 745, 647, 659, 658, 655**

**Jeremiah 23:16-29:** Jeremiah’s warning about “false shepherds” is a warning directed against the believer’s unbelieving nature. Our old Adam does not want to hear the call to repentance. He wants to hear the message that all is well and that God is pleased with him. The proper preaching of the Word of God always involves the crucifying of our flesh. Only then will we be able to receive the truly sweet and life-giving Words of the Gospel.

**Romans 8:12-17:** Children are always learning, growing, and maturing as long as they are children. This is true of us even as the children of God. Just as children learn and grow even through their mistakes and failings, the same is true for us as the Children of God. Our status as “baptized Children of God” CANNOT be overstated. Our God PROMISES to be there for us as His children in the day-to-day struggle with sin. We learn from our struggles to rely upon His grace and Spirit rather than relying upon ourselves. The Apostle Paul catechizes us to rely upon what God has given to us in our Baptism: He has called us to faith in Christ; He has forgiven us all our sin; He has given us His Holy Spirit; He has declared us to be His Children; we have access to God through Christ Jesus. To be a “debtor” means that we owe our life to another. As Christians, we do not owe our lives to the sinful flesh, but we owe our lives to the Holy Spirit who has called us to faith by the Gospel. To “live according to the flesh” means that a Christian abandons the call of the Gospel and lives BY FAITH in the appetites of his flesh which he follows. The end of this is the death of faith and spiritual destruction. Instead, the Baptized Christian is a debtor to the Holy Spirit. We owe our lives and salvation to Him. By the Holy Spirit who constantly calls us to repentance and faith, confession of sins and absolution, we “put to death the deeds of the body” and we live. We live by the daily renewing power of the absolution of Christ. We live by returning to the Lord as dear children, daily crying out in the midst of our struggles, “Abba, Father!” We are the Children of God. We continue to grow and learn and have our faith strengthened by the ministry of the Spirit. Through the Word of Promise, the Holy Spirit continues to bear witness with our spirits that we are the children of God and heirs with Christ, even as we suffer under the daily assaults of sin.

**Matthew 7:15-23:** Prophets are those who “speak forth the Word of God.” Therefore, a false prophet is one who claims to be speaking God’s Word but is actually speaking false doctrine. Jesus says that we will recognize false prophets by their fruits. What are the fruits of false prophets? False doctrine is the chief fruit of false prophets. False doctrine leads people away from sole reliance upon Christ to reliance upon themselves. Learning the truths of the Small Catechism is one of the chief ways by which the sheep learn to recognize a false prophet. Hearing and learning the basic truths of the Catechism guards us against the seductive lies of those who would divert our faith from the only Savior from sin, our Lord Jesus Christ.