

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
 For the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
 August 11, 2024, through August 18, 2024

Catechesis Notes for the Week — Psalm 50: A Song of Praise for the Proper Worship of the Lord—The true worship of God is not faith in ourselves, our own sacrifices, or our works of love that we offer to God in an attempt to earn His favor. Instead, the true worship of the Lord is a faith which desires to receive His forgiveness and help as a gift of His grace. Psalm 50 criticizes the sacrifices that were so often made in the Old Testament Church, not because they were bad (they were given to Israel by God), but rather because they were offered to God as their own good works to earn His favor. The true worship of God is a repentant heart that clings to His mercy for forgiveness, life, and salvation. The Lord alone is perfect and righteous. Out of Zion, His holy Church, He shines forth in the beauty of His righteousness to save repentant sinners. He calls us to faith in His gift of righteousness to offer to God thanksgiving and to pay our vows to the Most High. “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.” True praise and worship of the Lord honors and gives all glory to Him who gave His life for us. “Whoever offers praise glorifies Me; and to him who orders his conduct aright I will show the salvation of God.”

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: God Be Merciful to Me, a Sinner!

Invocation

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

Apostles' Creed

Verse: Jeremiah 17:9-10

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked;
 Who can know it?

I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind,
 even to give every man according to his ways,
 and according to the fruit of his doings.

Psalm 50:7-23 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness; for You live and reign Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (From LSB “Before Worship” alt.)

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	73	75, 76	78	80	82, 84	85	88	89
Evening	74	77	79	81	83	86	87	90h

Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	The Pharisee and the Tax Collector—Luke 18:9-14	
Monday	A Canaanite Woman Trusts Jesus' Word—Mark 7:24-30	Jeremiah 16:10-15
Tuesday	Jesus Heals a Deaf Mute—Mark 7:31-37	Jeremiah 17:5-18
Wednesday	The Feeding of the 4,000—Mark 8:1-10	Jeremiah 18:18-23
Thursday	The Pharisees Seek a Sign—Mark 8:11-21 St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord—Isaiah 61:7-11	Jeremiah 20:7-18
Friday	A Blind Man Is Healed at Bethsaida—Mark 8:22-26	Jeremiah 21:1-14
Saturday	The Confession of Peter and His Rebuke—Mark 8:27—9:1	Jeremiah 22:1-10

The Catechism: The Lord's Prayer— Fifth Petition

What is the Fifth Petition? And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.	Preschool +
What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.	Second Grade +

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

Collect for the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than we either desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy, forgiving those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things that we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord (8/15)

Almighty God, You chose the virgin Mary to be the mother of Your only Son. Grant that we, who are redeemed by His blood, may share with her in the glory of Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, 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...”

Birth: Anastasia Constance to Rev. Brennick and Bethany Christiansen.

Baptismal Anniversaries: Jennifer Johnson, Jessica Franklin, Caleb Ligrow (8/12), Nathan Seierstad (8/13), Mark Schneider (8/14), Hezekiah Christiansen (8/15), Jan Finke (8/16), Sierra Fredrich (8/17).

Wedding Anniversaries: Steve and Joanne LaSage (8/13), Travis and Lindsey Dubnicka (8/14), Jeff and Christine Dubnicka, Bob and Cheryl Piper (8/15), Bob and Doreen Corso (8/16).

The Sick: Mark Goltermann, George Kaminski recovering from surgery; Rev. David Groth, Jeanette Kellar, Rick Schuerman, Bill Spilger, Rev. Luke Boehringer, Jean Reuss, Jim Cardo, and Mark Ruhbusch 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

“Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion”

559

Looking forward to the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

August 18, 2024

Hymns: 524, 580, 349, 873, 913, 849

Isaiah 29:17-24: How can deaf hear? How can unbelievers believe? They cannot hear and they cannot believe unless the Lord opens their ears and hearts to faith by the miracle of His Word. This Old Testament reading corresponds to the Gospel for the day when Jesus heals the deaf mute. Isaiah foretells the ministry of the Gospel, “In that day the deaf shall hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness. The humble also shall increase their joy in the LORD, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.”

2 Corinthians 3:4-11: The mark of all true theology and of the Christian faith that believes the Word of God is that all glory is given to Christ alone. The ministry of the Law kills all self-righteousness and pride. The ministry of the Gospel gives life which can only be received as a gift by unworthy sinners. Even the minister preaches and teaches this Word, not in any strength or worthiness of His own, but by the grace of God. “Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God.” The ministry of the Spirit is the ministry of the Gospel of God’s free grace. It is a glorious ministry because it takes away all sin and fully reconciles us to God in Christ.

Mark 7:31-37: What a beautiful picture of how we all became Christians, followers of Jesus! The deaf mute could not hear, and he could not speak. He had no ability of his own to receive the Word of God that was necessary for him to come to faith. And because he had no faith, he could not speak or confess his faith. Jesus took the man aside from the multitude, put His fingers in his ears, spat and touched his tongue, sighed in the Spirit as He looked up to His Father in heaven, and said to the man, “Ephphatha!” “Be opened!” By Jesus’ Word he who could not hear and received the Word his ears and heart were opened to faith, and out of the faith of His heart his tongue that was in bondage was loosed and he spoke, confessing his faith and praising His Jesus. Word and water came together in this miracle in the touch of Jesus voice and the spittle from His mouth. How very like Baptism this is. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Out of the heart of faith the tongue is loosed, and we speak, confessing our faith and praising our God. This intimate miracle of healing illustrates our utter helplessness and our total dependence upon Christ for the miracle of faith and the gift of confessing our Savior.