

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 5 through July 12, 2026*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week— Holding forth the Word of Life—** “Give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine” (1 Timothy 4:13). “I am often aware of temptation, and even to this day can scarcely guard myself sufficiently against it. This I confess openly as an example to any who are interested, although I am an old doctor and preacher and am so much more versed in the Scriptures, or at least ought to be, than all those wise ones who attack me; I must still grow daily, like a child, saying aloud early every morning the Lord’s Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and such precious psalms and sayings as I choose, just as the children are now being taught to do, although I have daily to study the Scriptures and to fight the devil. I may not say in my heart: You know the Lord’s Prayer, you know the Ten Commandments, you know the Creed by heart, etc. No, I must go on learning every day and remain a pupil of the Catechism. I feel how noticeably it helps me, and I find by experience that the Word of God can never be exhausted, but that it is really true as Psalm 147 says: ‘His understanding is infinite’”—Martin Luther

## 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: Come to Me All You Who Labor and Are Heavy Laden!

### Invocation

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

### Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Matthew 11:28-30

**Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

**Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.**

**For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.**

Psalm 145:1-14 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

*Prayer on Psalm 119: My God and king, I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty and speak of the might of Your awesome acts. Your kingdom is everlasting, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations. You are near to all who call upon You. You preserve all who love You. I will forever praise Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, My Lord. Amen.*

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	51	54, 56	59	60, 61	65	66	68	71
Evening	52, 53	55	57, 58	62	63, 64	67, 70	69	72

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>Pentecost 6: Come to Me, All Who Labor—Matthew 11:25-30</b>	
Monday	Jesus Preaches Repentance and Faith—Matthew 11:20-30	Isaiah 28:16-19
Tuesday	Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath—Matthew 12:1-8	Isaiah 29:13-24
Wednesday	Jesus Heals on the Sabbath—Matthew 12:9-21	Isaiah 30:15-22
Thursday	A House Divided Cannot Stand—Matthew 12:22-32	Isaiah 31:1-9
Friday	A Tree Is Known by Its Fruit—Matthew 12:33-50	Isaiah 32:1-8
Saturday	The Parable of the Sower and the Seed—Matthew 13:1-9	Isaiah 33:1-6

### The Catechism: Lord’s Prayer—Conclusion

*What is the Conclusion to the Lord’s Prayer?*

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

*What does this mean? (or, What is meant by the word “Amen”?)*

This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us.

Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

Preschool +

Third Grade +

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

**Collect for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; 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  
**Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work  
**Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil and those struggling with besetting sins  
**Wednesday:** For marriage and family  
**Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; and for fruitful and salutary use of the Lord's Supper  
**Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the persecuted and oppressed  
**Saturday:** For the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away from Christ

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

**LCMS Convention**

**Baptismal anniversaries:** Rosie Koplmg (7/6); Abigail Haga (7/7); Nate Duessler (7/8); Mitchell Dubnicka (7/9); Timothy Fischer (7/11).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Jon and Marty Bruss (7/10).

**The sick:** Jennifer Torkelson undergoing cardiac testing and treatment; Kevin Kehres, recovering from an amputation; June Brueck, Carol David, Jon Bruss, and Jodi Winn in rehab.

**In cancer treatment:** Art Klausmeier (Mark Goltermann's cousin) who has exhausted treatment options; Barbara Galis (Nick Galis' grandmother) undergoing chemotherapy; Bob Rothe, Michael Piper (Bob Piper's brother), Michael Gehl (friend of the Bruss family), Mary O'Flyng (acquaintance of the Rothe family), Loretta Lampen, Tracy Espinosa, Ken Hinckle, Diane Bulawa, and Rev. Luke Boehringer.

**Those who mourn:** The family and friends of Sid Franklin (Kent Franklin's father).

**Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism**

**Hymn of the Week**

**“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”**

699

**Looking forward to the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 10)**

July 12, 2026

**Hymns: 589, 577, 587, 622, 921**

**Isaiah 55:10-13:** The Word of God is compared to water, life-giving, life-creating water. This contrasts with the Gospel for the day in which the Word of God is compared to seed, specifically grain. Taken together, water and seed, we have an image of divine monergism, that is to say, it is the Lord and the Lord alone who creates faith that He may receive all the glory. This is highlighted with the description of “rain from heaven” – it is all from God. The Word of God that is faithfully preached and taught always accomplishes what God intends for it! That is a promise, and an extremely comforting promise for all of us. “As the rain comes down and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” NKJV

**Romans 8:12-17:** We are debtors not to the flesh to live in the fulfilling of its covetous desires, but we are rather indebted to the Holy Spirit who, through the Gospel has created faith in our hearts, forgiven us our sins, and given us a new heart that loves and trusts in Jesus and which boldly believes itself to be a dear child of God. How do we actually live in the Spirit of God who has raised us from the death of sin to the new life of faith in Christ? We live in the Spirit through what the Catechism calls, “daily contrition and repentance” and the “daily reception of Christ's promises of forgiveness.” That's the baptismal life, and it is what we practice in our prayers whereby we are bold to cry “Abba, Father!” And it is the baptismal life that is experienced concretely in confession and absolution. It is in the baptismal life of prayer, confession and absolution that the “deeds of the body” are put to death and by which we then live by the strength of the Spirit's promises to us.

**Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23:** The radical character of the Gospel—that it is for all, without distinction or partiality—is illustrated in this parable by a Sower who sows the seed of the Gospel everywhere, even on hardpacked soil, rocky soil, or soil that is full of weeds. What responsible Sower would “waste seed” like that? But that is what Jesus does in the preaching of the Gospel that every sinner might hear the Word of life. The parable of the Sower and the Seed teaches us that faith in Christ is a miracle of God's Word. The Word of Christ alone gives birth to and sustains faith in Christ. The enemies of faith are the devil, persecution, and earthly cares and pleasures. These “enemies of faith” attack all who have been brought to faith in Jesus. Jesus' parable teaches us how important the Word of God is for the sustaining of faith and how totally dependent upon the Word of God each of us is. This is why preaching, catechesis, and absolution are at the center of the Christian's life. Faith lives and conquers her enemies from the ongoing reception of the Seed of God's Word.