

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity – September 5, 2021

Simple orders can be found on pages 294-298 in LSB or you may use the following order

Invocation

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

Psalm 146

Verse[s] of the Month

I Corinthians 15:19-20: If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Week

What God Ordains Is Always Good (LSB 760/TLH 521)

Reading from Holy Scripture

Members may choose...

- *Read the Bible in a year (church website) or children's The Story Bible (CPH)*

- *Readings appointed from the Daily Lectionary (LSB p. 299-304)*

Looking forward to the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Monday: I Kings 17:8-16

Tuesday: Galatians 5:25—6:10

Wednesday: Matthew 6:24-34

Thursday: "You cannot serve God and mammon" (Matt 6:24-34), for they require two contrary forms of service. Worry is the worship given to the false god of mammon, an unbelieving anxiousness and focus on the things of this world. Faith is the worship of the true God, a confident trust that He is a loving Father who will care for all of our needs in both body and soul. The widow of Zarephath served God, that is, she believed the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah that the bin of flour would not be used up nor would the jar of oil run dry (I Kings 17:8-16). He who feeds the birds and clothes the flowers will certainly provide for our daily needs. For He has already provided for our eternal needs, clothing us with Christ's righteousness in Baptism and feeding us His body and blood for our forgiveness. With such confidence we are liberated from worry and freed to do good with our material resources, especially to those who are of the household of faith (Gal 5:25-6:10).

Catechism for the Week: Christian Questions and Their Answers

20. *But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?* To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and

trouble, as the Scriptures say in John 15-16 and in I John 2 and 5. Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in John 8 and 16; I Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and II Timothy 2.

Prayers:

Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You for all Your benefits in giving us life and limb and graciously sustaining them until now, and we beseech You not to take Your blessing away from us, but keep us from covetousness, that we may serve You alone, love You, and cling to You, and not sin by idolatry and the harmful worship of mammon, but put all our hope, comfort, and confidence only in Your mercy and grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Linda Winkelman, Jean Luerssen, Bill Heck, Kathy Foat, Bill Lindbloom, Arnie Oelkers, Debbie Jutrzonka, Dorthea Peper

Lord's Prayer

Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that you would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Mealttime Prayer

The eyes of all look to You, O Lord, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Thy gifts which we receive from Thy bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Closing

Let us bless the Lord: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn of the Month

This Body in the Grave We Lay (LSB 759/TLH 596)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of Formula of Concord: Solid Declaration pp. 602-611

From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)