

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following*

*The Feast of St. Bartholomew – August 24, 2025*

*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 50:7-23**

### **Verse of the Month**

Luke 1:50 “His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation.”

### **10 Commandments & Apostles’ Creed**

### **Hymn of the Week**

From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee (LSB 607/TLH 329)

### **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 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**

Monday: Genesis 4:1-15

Tuesday: I Corinthians 15:1-10

Wednesday: Luke 18:9-14

Thursday: “*And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard*” (Gen. 4:1-15). For unlike Abel, Cain’s offering did not proceed from a heart that revered and trusted in the Lord. Thus, the lowly tax collector who prayed, “*God, be merciful to me, a sinner!*” was the one who went down to his house justified before God, not the respectable, outwardly righteous Pharisee who trusted in himself and his own good living (Luke 18:9-14). “*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast*” (Eph. 2:1-10). The one who penitently despairs of his own righteousness and relies completely on the atoning mercy of God in Christ is the one who is declared righteous. For Christ died for our sins and rose again the third day (I Cor. 15:1-10). Therefore, “*everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.*”

### **Catechism for the Week: Christian Questions and Their Answers**

17. *What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?* His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2; and Ephesians 5. 18. *Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?* That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor. 19. *What should admonish and*

*encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?* First, both the command and promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.

### **Prayers:**

#### **Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)**

O Lord God, heavenly Father, I beseech You so to rule and govern me by Your Holy Spirit that I may not forget my sins nor grow complacent but live in continual repentance and take comfort only in this, that for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You will be gracious to me, forgive all sins, and give me salvation. Amen.

#### **In Our Prayers This Week:**

Mark Siddons, Rebecca Rauterberg, Betty Beierle, Alice Terry, Arnie Oelkers

### **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.

#### **Mealtime 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**

*Through Jesus’ Blood and Merit* (LSB 746/TLH 372)

### **Reading from the Book of Concord**

Portions of Formula of Concord: Solid Declaration pp. 593-602

From *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (CPH)