

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

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

*St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist – September 21, 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 146**

### **Verse of the Month**

Psalm 1:1 “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.”

### **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 (1 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: Fifth and Sixth Commandments**

*The Fifth Commandment* You shall not murder.

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we may not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every bodily need [in every need and danger of life and body].

*The Sixth Commandment* You shall not commit adultery.

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we may lead a pure and decent life in words and deeds, and each love and honor his spouse.

### **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:**

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 all evil, so 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, so that the wicked 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, 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, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer**

The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O Lord; and Thou givest them their meat in due season; Thou openest Thine hand, and satisfiest the desire 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**

I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb (LSB 740/ TLH 648)

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

Portions of Luther’s Large Catechism p.362-370

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (CPH))