

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity – September 20, 2026

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 2

Verse of the Month

Psalm 3:4-6 ⁴I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me from His holy hill. ⁵I laid me down and slept; I awaked, for the Lord sustained me. ⁶I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that have set themselves against me round about.

10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Week

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me (*LSB* 756/*TLH* 523)

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 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Monday: Proverbs 25:6-14

Tuesday: Ephesians 4:1-6

Wednesday: Luke 14:1-11

Thursday: "Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king" (Prov 25:6-14). Rather, take the lowest position at the table. Humble yourself before Him. For your place is not for you to take but for Him to give. Conduct yourself with all lowliness and gentleness, bearing with one another in love (Ephesians 4:1-6), that the King may give you glory in the presence of those at the table with you. "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:1-11). Is this not the way of Christ? He is the one who took the lowest place, who humbled Himself even to the point of death for us. He is now exalted to the highest place at the right hand of the Father that penitent believers may be exalted together with Him in the resurrection. To the humble at His Supper He says, "Friend, go up higher," giving you His very body and blood for your forgiveness that you may ascend to take part in the great wedding feast which has no end.

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 beseech You to so rule and direct us by Your Holy Spirit that we may keep ourselves in Your fear and not grow proud, but with our whole heart hear and receive Your Word and truly keep the Sabbath holy, that we being sanctified by Your Word may, first, put all our trust and hope in Your Son, Jesus Christ as our only righteousness and redemption, and secondly, amend our lives according to Your Word and avoid all offense, until by Your grace in Christ we obtain eternal salvation. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Mark Siddons, Betty Beierle, Vonnice McDermott, Hella Goering, 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

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

Reading from the Book of Concord

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

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (*CPH*)