

The Congregation at Prayer

A guide for daily meditation and prayer the week following

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity – September 27, 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 34:8-22

Verse of the Month

Psalm 3:7-8 7 Arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God! For Thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheekbone; Thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly. 8 Salvation belongeth unto the Lord. Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

10 Commandments & Apostles' Creed

Hymn of the Week

Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower (*LSB* 694/*TLH* 399)

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 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Monday: Deuteronomy 10:12-21

Tuesday: I Corinthians 1:4-8

Wednesday: Matthew 22:34-46

Thursday: The Pharisees ask a Law question. Jesus asks a Gospel question. The Pharisees seek to trap Jesus in His own words. Jesus seeks to "trap" them in the saving reality of who He is as the Messiah (Matt 22:34-46). The Law requires you to "fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul" and to "love the stranger" (Deut 10:12-21). Failure to keep the Law perfectly brings judgment. On the other hand, the Gospel brings the grace of God given by Jesus Christ, that you may be blameless in the day of His return (1 Cor 1:4-8). Jesus is David's Son yet David's Lord, true God and true man. He is Love incarnate who fulfilled all the demands of God's Law on our behalf, that we might be saved from the Law's condemnation and sanctified in the Gospel's forgiveness. Thereby we see that "God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

Catechism for the Week: Seventh and Eighth Commandments

The Seventh Commandment You shall not steal.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we may not take our neighbor's money or property, nor get them with bad products or deals, but help him to improve and protect his property and business.

The Eighth Commandment You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we may not deceitfully belie, betray, slander, or defame our neighbor, but defend him, [think and] speak well of him, and put the best construction on everything.

Prayers:

Collect of the Week (from Lutheran Prayer Companion)

O Lord God, heavenly Father, we are poor, miserable sinners. We know Your will, but we are too weak to fulfill it. Flesh and blood are too strong in us, and the wicked adversary, the devil, leaves us no peace. Wherefore we beseech You, pour out Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may cling to Your Son, Jesus Christ, with a firm faith, take comfort in His death and Passion, and believe that by Him we have complete forgiveness of all our sins, and so lead a holy life in Your will and obedience here on earth, and die a blessed death in Your grace; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

In Our Prayers This Week:

Mark Siddons, Betty Beierle, 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

O Lord, Look Down from Heaven, Behold (*TLH* 260)

Reading from the Book of Concord

Portions of Luther's Large Catechism p.370-379

From Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (*CPH*)