

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Ninth Sunday after Trinity  
August 13 through August 20, 2006*

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.** Let the Lord build your house and look after it. Do not interfere with His work. It falls to Him, not you, to look after it. Leave Him, who is Master of the house and runs it, to look after it. If much is needed in a house, do not worry, God is greater than a house. He who fills heaven and earth will surely be able to fill a house, all the more so because He has undertaken to do so and allows the Psalmist to praise Him for it. But this does not mean that He forbids you to work. Work you should and must, but do not ascribe the fact that you have food to eat and that your house is furnished to your work, but to God's grace and blessing alone. For where it is ascribed to a man's own work, covetousness and worry immediately raise their heads and the thought that much work will mean many possessions. Hence the strange contradiction occurs that some, who work extremely hard, have scarcely enough to eat, while others who work leisurely are blessed with all good things. This means that God will have the honor, for He alone makes things grow. For even if you were to till the earth for a hundred years, and do all the work in the world, you could not make it bring forth one blade of grass; but while you are asleep, and without your work, God will bring the blade out of the little grain, and He adds many grains according to His will. — Luther

## The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

### Theme: With the Merciful You Will Show Yourself Merciful.

#### Invocation

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

#### Apostles' Creed

#### Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13b

**God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able,  
but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.**

#### Psalms 54 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Lord, our God, who desires not the death of the wicked, convert those who hate us without a cause, and turn the hearts of those who persecute Your Christians. Protect the poor and the innocent against the oppression of unjust men. Grant us patience under the cross, and preserve us in the true faith all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	128, 129	131, 132	135	137, 138	140, 141	144	147	148
Evening	130	133, 134	136	139	142, 143	145	146	149, 150

#### The Catechism: The Lord's Prayer—The Sixth Petition

What is the Sixth Petition?

**And lead us not into temptation.**

What does this mean?

God tempts no one.

We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice.

Although we are attacked by these things,

we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

Preschool +

Third Grade +

#### Readings for the Week of the Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Day	First Reading—Bible Stories for the Family	Second Reading
Monday	The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers—Mark 12:1-12	1 Kings 3:16-28
Tuesday	Render to Caesar the Things that Are Caesar's—Mark 12:13-17	1 Kings 4:22-34
Wednesday	The Sadducees Question Jesus About the Resurrection—Mark 12:18-27	1 Kings 5:1-18
Thursday	The Greatest Commandment—Mark 12:28-44	2 Chronicles 3:1-17
Friday	Look ahead to Sunday	1 Kings 8:1-66
Saturday	Look ahead to Sunday	1 Kings 7:1-12

**Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Peace**

*Collect for the Week of the Ninth Sunday after Trinity:*

**Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Daily Themes for Prayer*

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; your calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for government; and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; and those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family; living together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; those adults who must rear their children alone; and godly schools, especially Peace Lutheran Academy, our church schools, and seminaries.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the church and her pastors; for missionaries; fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; its spread throughout the whole world and our community; the persecuted.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; the dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

*In Our Prayers this Week*

*That the Lord would preserve all pastors and ministers of His Church in the true knowledge and understanding of His Word and in holiness of life.*

*The soldiers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, especially Ricky Stolz, David and Terri Kroll's nephew. Bill Schulz, brother of Ferdinand, diagnosed with inoperable brain cancer.*

*Jan Mauritz hospitalized and Community Memorial Estelle Reid at Linden Grove Nursing Home.*

**Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism**

**Hymn of Week**

**"With the Lord Begin Thy Task"**

**540**

**Look forward to the Tenth Sunday after Trinity**

**August 13, 2006**

**Hymns:** 419, 444

**Jeremiah 7:1-11:** *What characterized Judah's fall from faith was impenitence and the absence of the preaching of repentance by the priests and prophets of the land. Those few, like Jeremiah, who did call the people to repentance were persecuted, imprisoned or killed. Those who spoke as if all was well in the land were elevated to positions of prominence. The Lord will not have His Word set as idle. The call to repentance is necessary. Without it, no one can come to faith or receive the salvation of the Lord.*

**Romans 9:30—10:4:** *"Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes." What does this mean? Answer: The Law not only describes and defines love and what is good, but also demands punishment and retribution for those who have transgressed it. "Christ is the end of the law" in the sense that the law finds its "end" or "completion" or fulfillment" in Jesus and His work. He is the one who is incarnate love and goodness, whose love was ultimately manifested in bearing the punishment of the law for sinners. This is the righteousness of God. Those who seek to establish "their own righteousness" apart from Christ and that which comes by faith are outside the kingdom of God and cannot be saved. Those who believe in Christ have His righteousness, or the "end of the law" in Him.*

**Luke 19:41-48:** *Our Lord wept over Jerusalem for the destruction that would soon come upon her. For she did not recognize the time of God's visitation in Christ, who had come to bring her peace (Luke 19:41-48). Through His prophets God had consistently called His people to turn from their deceit and false worship. "But My people do not know the judgment of the Lord" (Jer 7:1-11; 8:4-12). They sought to establish their own righteousness rather than receive Christ's righteousness through faith (Rom 9:30-10:4). So it was that God was in His temple to cleanse it, a precursor to the once-for-all cleansing from sin which He would accomplish in the temple of His own body on the cross. God grant us to know the things that make for our peace—His visitation in the Word and Sacraments—that by the Holy Spirit we may penitently confess "Jesus is Lord" (1 Cor 12:1-11).*