

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the Week of the Ninth Sunday after Trinity  
August 5 through August 12, 2007

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — The Prayer of Christians**—“No man can conceive the power of prayer except one who has tried it and learned by experience. But it is a great thing that a man faced with a dire calamity may forthwith call upon the Lord. This I know. Whenever I have prayed earnestly about a matter which has concerned me very deeply, it has been richly answered and I have received more than I have asked. Sometimes God has been slow in coming, but He has always come. Lo, what a great thing is the fervent prayer of a true Christian! How it avails with God that a poor man should speak with His High Majesty in heaven and be not afraid of Him, but know that God smiles graciously on him for the sake of Jesus Christ His beloved Son, our Lord and Savior! The heart and conscience need not turn back and run away. It need not be in doubt because of its unworthiness, and need not be afraid, but may believe with complete certainty that our prayers are always answered when we pray believing in Christ.” – Martin Luther’s Table Talks

## 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: The Lord Provides the Way of Escape from Temptation.

#### Invocation

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

#### Apostles' Creed

Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but 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.

**Psalm 51:1-15 and/or the appointed daily psalms for listed below.**

Prayer on the Psalm: Almighty and everlasting God, through Your Son You have promised us forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. Govern our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that in our daily need, and especially in all time of temptation, we may seek Your help and, by a true and lively faith in Your Word, obtain all that You have promised; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	22	26, 27	30	32	33	35	37	40
Evening	23, 24	25	28, 29	31	34	36	38	39, 41

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

What is the Sixth Petition?

First Grade +

**And lead us not into temptation.**

What does this mean?

Third Grade +

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.

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

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	Parable of the Unjust Steward—Luke 16:1-9 (10-13)	1 Sam. 19:1-24	Acts 28:1-15
Monday	Paul’s Second Missionary Journey—Acts 15:36—16:15	1 Sam. 20:1-23	Acts 28:16-31
Tuesday	Paul and Silas Are Imprisoned at Philippi—Acts 16:16-34	1 Sam. 20:24-42	1 Cor. 1:1-25
Wednesday	Paul, the Roman Citizen, Leaves Philippi—Acts 16:35-40	1 Sam. 24:1-22	1 Cor. 1:26–2:16
Thursday	Paul Preaches in Thessalonica and Berea—Acts 17:1-15	1 Sam. 25:1-22	1 Cor. 3:1-23
Friday	Paul Preaches in the Areopagus of Athens—Acts 17:16-34	1 Sam. 25:23-44	1 Cor. 4:1-21
Saturday	The Ministry of Paul in Corinth—Acts 18:1-22	1 Sam. 26:1-25	1 Cor. 5:1-13
Sunday	Sunday’s readings	1 Sam. 28:3-25	1 Cor. 6:1-20

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

*Collect for 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; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

*In Our Prayers this Week*

*This week's Vacation Bible School and Congregational Retreat on Prayer. Wanda celebrating her 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (daughter of Carol Zick); David and Terri Kroll celebrating their 14<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Those suffering with cancer: Peggy Kievit, sister of Beth Bender; John LaSage, brother of Steve LaSage; Donna Ziegler, sister of Virjean Schmidt; Bill Kallio, good friend of Judy Jones. Mike Clark, undergoing hip replacement surgery on Monday, August 6. Helping Hands, a Lutheran ministry to the Bulgarians.*

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

**Hymn of Week**

**"What Is the World to Me"**

**730**

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

***August 12, 2007***

**Hymns:** 644, Psalm 92, 607, 540 (1-4), 540 (5-6)

**Jeremiah 7:1-11:** *What characterized Judah's fall from faith were 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 aside. 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 grants 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).*