

#### The Gift of Grace Lutheran Congregation at Prayer

A guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer For the Week of the 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost August 31 through September 6

- Invocation make the sign of the cross and say...
  In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

# The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.



#### **Morning or Evening Prayer**

Morning. 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 every evil, 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, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would 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, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



### Mealtime Blessing and then afterwards Returning Thanks

Blessing before meal

"The eyes of all look to You, [O LORD,] and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing." (Ps. 145: 15-16)

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Returning Thanks after meal "Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love endures forever. [He] gives food to every creature. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the LORD delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love." (Ps. 136:1, 25; 147:9–11)

We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen



#### Pray the Psalms

General Wk 1	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	103, 150	5, 145	42, 146	89:1-18; 147:1-11	116, 147:12- 20	51, 148	104, 149
Evening	117, 139	82, 29	102, 133	1, 33	16, 62	142, 65	118, 111



## Verse of the Week: Luke 14:11

Alleluia. Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Alleluia.



## 8 Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday ......2 Samuel 7:1-17; Acts 18:1-11; Mark 8:11-21

Tuesday......2 Samuel 7:18-29; Acts 18:12-28; Mark 8:22-33

Wednesday....2 Samuel 9:1-13; Acts 19:1-10; Mark 8:34-9:1

Thursday .......2 Samuel 11:1-27; Acts 19:11-20; Mark 9:2-13

Friday......2 Samuel 12:1-14; Acts 19:21-41; Mark 9:14-29

**Saturday**............2 Samuel 12:15-31; Acts 20:1-16; Mark 9:30-41



#### The Collect for the Week

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 17** O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen..



#### **Catechism Portion for the Week**

The Seventh Commandment, You shall not steal. – Luther is right to understand that the negative prohibitions in the Ten Commandments are meant to protect something positive, something good. They can also be stated positively. We know Luther is right because our Lord Jesus taught that all the commandments are summed up by these two: 1) love God with all your being; and 2) love your neighbor as yourself (Dt 6:5; Lv 19:18; Mt 22:37-39). In fact, the 7th Commandment reminds us that God created us to look after the earthly gifts that He has given to our neighbors for their life and wellbeing. It is illustrative to witness the transformation of the tax collector, Zacchaeus, in Luke 19 after he encountered Jesus and His grace. True to the position of the day, Zacchaeus was likely well-to-do by bilking fellow Jews in the collecting of taxes. But after his encounter with Christ he announced, "Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold" (19:8). As Christians, we rejoice in and look after the earthly goods that God has entrusted to us and our neighbor for the support of daily life.



#### Portion of the Catechism and Luther's Explanation

#### What is the Seventh Commandment?

You shall not steal.

#### What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.



#### Prayer Based on the Portion of the Catechism

**Prayer based on Seventh Commandment -** Lord God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to rejoice in the bounty of your gifts given to our neighbors and curb our appetite to claim for ourselves by theft or dishonesty the money or possessions you have bestowed on them. Instead, give us cheerful hearts and willing hands to help our neighbors improve and protect their livelihood; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 107]



#### **Intercessory Prayer**

- For Madison Mallen (granddaughter of Connie Meunier's cousin with liver cancer)
- † For Connie Meunier with a fractured left foot
- For Karla Reagle (Lee Fehr's daughter) for a healthy pregnancy and delivery.
- † For Fred Rick with Sciatic Stenosis



#### Hymn of the Week and Next Sunday's Lessons

**842 Son of God, Eternal Savior**: *stnz 1* 1 Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race, You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead: Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need. *stnz 2* As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live. Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give. Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be. *stnz 3* Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of Love and Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease. By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain, Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain. *stnz 4* Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race: By your praying, by Your willing, That Your people should be one, Grant, O grant our hope's fruition; Here on earth Your will be done.

For September 7, 2025, Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Love the Lord, walk in His ways, and keep His commands; Psalm 1 "The LORD knows the way of the righteous."; Philemon 1-21 Paul asks that Onesimus be welcomed; Luke 14:25-35 The requirements of discipleship