

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the Ninth Sunday after Trinity

August 9th through August 15th, 2020

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 selection from the catechism and memory verse for the week.

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

The Ten Commandments

The Apostles' Creed

The Catechism (Table of Duties) with Memory Verse

To Parents

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4).

“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4). This passage cited for parents in the Table of Duties addresses itself explicitly to “fathers” not because mothers are excluded from this admonition, but to underscore the spiritual headship of the Christian father in the home and family. Ever since the fall into sin there has been a natural tendency for men to abdicate their responsibility to teach the Word of God to their wives and children. This passage makes it clear that there is no greater responsibility for a Christian father than the passing on of the Christian faith to his children. The admonition against “Exasperating” or “provoking the children to wrath” is a warning to Christian parents that they are not to allow the law to predominate in the rearing of their children, lest their children become embittered or despair of their parents’ love. As important as the law is in maintaining discipline, for Christian parents it is never an end in itself. They use the law’s admonition also for the sake of the Gospel, that they might bring about repentance and faith in God’s mercy. Just as the Gospel must predominate in the Church’s preaching, so the Gospel, forgiveness, and mercy must predominate in the home.

Daily Reading

Sun., Aug. 9:	1 Samuel 25:1–22	1 Corinthians 3:1–23	Psalm 23
Mon., Aug. 10:	1 Samuel 25:23–44	1 Corinthians 4:1–21	Psalm 8
Tues., Aug. 11:	1 Samuel 26:1–25	1 Corinthians 5:1–13	Psalm 5
Wed., Aug. 12:	1 Samuel 28:3–25	1 Corinthians 6:1–20	Psalm 134
Thurs., Aug. 13:	1 Samuel 31:1–13	1 Corinthians 7:1–24	Psalm 130
Fri., Aug. 14:	2 Samuel 1:1–27	1 Corinthians 7:25–40	Psalm 40
Sat., Aug. 15:	2 Samuel 5:1–25	1 Corinthians 8:1–13	Psalm 98

O, Lord, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers:

Our Church: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Our Synod:** Matthew (Synod President), Timothy (District President), Aaron (Circuit Visitor). **Circuit 7 Vacancies:** Trinity Lutheran Church-Centralia. **Those Who Mourn:** the Beckmann family at the death of Brian. **Those in Need of Healing:** Barb Mueller (recovering from surgery), Jason Brammeier (recovering from surgery), Sylvia Kleiboeker (recovering from surgery), Lucille Stein, Sandy Wehking, Kate Schilling, Randy Zimmermann, Jonathan Siddell, Rodney Tate, Todd Twenhafel (brain tumor) (son-in-law of Roger & Joan Knolhoff), All affected and sick on account of the Coronavirus. **Homebound Members:** Mary Boeker, Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz, Connie Schilling. **Baptismal Birthdays:** 10th Brooke Kleiboeker, Mary Boeker, 11th Vikki Siddell, 13th Ron Albers, 15th Jeff Kleiboeker. **Anniversaries:** 9th Aaron & Bethany Ruckman, 12th Don & Winnie Will, Ed & Verdell Hermsmeyer, 14th Rev. Jonathan & Stefanie Jennings. **For Government Officials:** Donald Trump (President), JB Pritzker (Governor), and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. **For Those Who Serve:** Armed Forces, First Responders, Medical Field. **For the World:** That God would deliver us from pestilence, sedition, rebellion, and strife.

Look upon them with eyes of Your mercy; grant them comfort and sure confidence in You; defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

Morning or Evening Prayer (From the Small Catechism)