

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*

October 4<sup>th</sup> through October 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 – 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.

**Large Catechism** - After your own person and your spouse, the next thing God wants to be protected is temporal property, and he has commanded us all not to rob or pilfer our neighbor's possessions. For to steal, is nothing else than to acquire someone else's property by unjust means. First, we are forbidden to do our neighbors any injury or wrong in any way imaginable, whether by damaging, withholding, or interfering with their possessions and property. We are not even to consent to or permit such a thing but are rather to avert and prevent it. In addition, we are commanded to promote and further our neighbors' interests, and when they suffer any want, we are to help, share, and lend to both friends and foes. Anyone who seeks and desires good works will find here more than enough things to do that are heartily acceptable and pleasing to God. Moreover, God lavishes upon them a wonderful blessing, and generously rewards us for what we do to benefit and befriend our neighbor. – *Large Catechism*

**Memory Verse** – Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (Romans 13:10)

Daily Readings	Bible Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
<b>Sunday</b>	The Man with Dropsy Is Healed on the Sabbath Luke 14:1-11		Psalm 43
<b>Monday</b>	The Budding of Aaron's Rod Numbers 16:41-17:13	Hebrews 12:25-29	Psalm 44
<b>Tuesday</b>	Moses Strikes the Rock Numbers 20:1-29	Hebrews 13:1-6	Psalm 45
<b>Wednesday</b>	The Bronze Serpent Numbers 21:1-9	Hebrews 13:7-25	Psalm 46
<b>Thursday</b>	Balaam's Donkey (Part 1) Numbers 22:1-5, 12-38	Galatians 1:1-10	Psalm 47
<b>Friday</b>	Balaam's Donkey (Part 2) Numbers 24:10-25	Galatians 1:11-24	Psalm 48
<b>Saturday</b>	The Essence of the Law Deuteronomy 10:12-21	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	Psalm 49

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 in Need of Healing:** Barb Mueller (recovering from surgery), Jason Brammeier (recovering from surgery), Lucille Stein, Sandy Wehking, Randy Zimmermann, 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:** 5<sup>th</sup> Emma Winkeler, 6<sup>th</sup> Monica French, 9<sup>th</sup> Alexa Childress, Alan Kleiboeker. **For Government Officials:** Donald Trump (President), JB Pritzker (Governor), and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. **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)**

**Hymn of the Week:** Seek Where You May to Find a Way (LSB 557)

**Hymn of the Week:** Georg Weissel (1590-1635) wrote 'Seek Where You May to Find a Way' for his own installation in 1623 as pastor of the new church in the Rossgarten section of Königsberg (now Kaliningrad in Russia). Weissel makes it clear in the first stanza that only those who build on Christ as their one foundation will find salvation. He is saying in effect, "Build whatever buildings you desire in this life. In the end, they will crumble. The eternal Church is built on Christ, and my hope is in Him!"