

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the first week after Trinity  
(June 19<sup>th</sup> – June 25<sup>th</sup>)*

### **CATECHETICAL THEME:**

***Daily Prayers – Asking a Blessing***

#### **This Week's Catechetical Theme: Daily Prayers – Asking a Blessing**

Our focus on Luther's pattern for daily prayer continues this week with the table prayer. Of course, many of us grew up praying, "Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest..." And in some ways, it is proper to call this the "Common Table Prayer." If you've ever been to a Lutheran gathering, you know that it is common indeed! But there is wisdom in the way Luther instructs us to pray before our meals. As we gather around the table, He provides us with a short liturgy. First, Psalm 145:15-16 directs our attention to God, who opens His hands to satisfy the desires of every living creature. Then, the Lord's Prayer is prayed both before and after eating. Finally, before we partake of God's provision of daily bread, we implore Him to bless us and the gifts we receive from His bountiful goodness. In addition to Luther's instruction, this week we'll add a few passages, which also point us to the One from whom our daily bread flows. The Lord bless your time of devotion in His Word!

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

#### **The Ten Commandments & The Apostles' Creed**

**The Catechism:** Daily Prayer – Asking a Blessing

*How the head of the family should teach his household to ask a blessing...*

*The children and members of the household shall go to the table reverently, fold their hands, and say: 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)*

*Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:*

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

<b>Daily Readings</b>	<b>Catechetical Narrative</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Rich Man and Lazarus Luke 16:19-31</b>		<b>Psalm 137</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>You Give Them Their Food Psalm 145</b>	<b>Philippians 4</b>	<b>Psalm 138</b>

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Nothing Is to Be Rejected 1 Timothy 4:4-5</b>	<b>Colossians 1</b>	<b>Psalm 139</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Give Thanks in All Circumstances 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18</b>	<b>Colossians 2</b>	<b>Psalm 140</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Rain on the Just and the Unjust Matthew 5:43-48</b>	<b>Colossians 3</b>	<b>Psalm 141</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Every Good Gift Is From Above James 1:16-17</b>	<b>Colossians 4</b>	<b>Psalm 142</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Proverbs 9:1-10</b>	<b>Ephesians 2:13-22</b>	<b>Psalm 143</b>

### Questions to Discuss in the Home

**Sun:** Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon – Fri:** Use the following questions to initiate discussion about each day's reading: 1) What does the day's passage reveal about the Lord's blessing? 2) How do the faithful receive the blessings of the Lord? 3) Upon whom does the Lord give His blessings? 4) How does this passage instruct us regarding our meals? 5) Why is this passage important to keep in mind? 6) What comfort is there to draw from this passage? **Sat:** In Preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

### Memory Verse

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. (Psalm 145:15-16)

### In Our Prayers this Week

**Our Church:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Giving Thanks to God:** Rev. James Hennig accepting the call to Trinity Lutheran Centralia, the birth of Luke Andrew to Jared & Laura Eggerman. **For Those Who are Expecting:** Corinne Bradley, Shaelyn Huels (Caroline & Randy Tate's daughter). **For Those Recovering from Surgery:** Linda Nehrt (Eddie & Verdell Hermsmeyer's niece), Barb Mueller, Pat Borgelt (father of Angie Nolte). **Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Opal Jones, Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann), Elbert Brink. **Those in Need of Healing:** Carolyn Freund, Clare Jones (granddaughter of Mike & Opal Jones). **Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann, Connie Schilling. **Homebound Members:** Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Hazel Kuper, Anna Childress, Hannah Hoffmann (6/20), Heather Childress (6/22). **Anniversaries:** Brandi & Nick Gehrs (6/20).

### The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism

**Hymn of the Week:** To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray (LSB 768)