

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

Sixteenth Week after Trinity

September 15, 2024, through September 22, 2024

Life Thoughts-- In both the Old Testament and Gospel readings we see the ultimate miracle, sons raised from the dead (1 Kings 17:17-24, Luke 7:11-17). Yet they present but a tiny picture of what will happen because God raised His Son from the dead! All the dead in Christ will be raised to eternal life. Death is a defeated enemy! *Prayer: Lord, may Your defeat of death give us courage as we confront a culture of death. Amen.*

Stewardship Thoughts-- Ephesians 3:14-15 – **“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.”** We don’t call our heavenly Father by that name by analogy to our earthly fathers — it’s the other way around: God sets the pattern and image for earthly fathers to follow. He is the real and true Father: kind, loving, strong, faithful, generous, righteous and self-sacrificing. Knowing this Father is the basis for growing into His image, which is the goal of our sanctification.

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.

Invocation

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

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Ephesians 3:20-21

“Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Read or Chant Psalm 30

Lord’s Prayer--The Introduction

Our Father who art in heaven.

What does this mean?

With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun., Sept. 15	Gospel Lesson, Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity—Luke 7:11-17	1 Kings 17:17-24
Mon., Sept. 16	Thou art a priest forever—Hebrews 7:1-28	Jeremiah 37:1-21
Tues., Sept. 17	Christ mediates a better covenant—Hebrews 8:1-13	Jeremiah 38:1-28
Wed, Sept. 18	The first covenant had regulations for worship—Hebrews 9:1-10	Jeremiah 32:1-44
Thurs, Sept. 19	Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness—Hebrews 9:16-28	Jeremiah 39:1-18
Fri., Sept. 20	By a single offering—Hebrews 10:1-34	Jeremiah 29:1-23
Sat., Sept. 21	Without faith it is impossible to please God—Hebrews 10:1-34	Daniel 1:1-21
Sun., Sept. 22	Gospel Lesson, Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity—Luke 14:1-11	Proverbs 25:6-14

Pray the Collect for the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity:

O Lord, we pray that Your grace may always go before and follow after us, that we may continually be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Personal Prayers and Petitions

Lord's Prayer

Luther's Morning Prayer

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.

Luther's Evening Prayer

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.

Hymn of the Week

- 1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals' sake!
- 2 He sent no angel to our race,
Of higher or of lower place,
But wore the robe of human frame,
And to this world Himself He came.
- 3 For us baptized, for us He bore
His holy fast and hungered sore;
For us temptation sharp He knew;
For us the tempter overthrew.
- 4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;
For us His daily works He wrought,

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–85, alt.
Text: Public domain

O Love, How Deep

- By words and signs and actions thus
Still seeking not Himself but us.
- 5 For us by wickedness betrayed,
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death;
For us He gave His dying breath.
 - 6 For us He rose from death again;
For us He went on high to reign;
For us He sent His Spirit here
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
 - D 7 All glory to our Lord and God
For love so deep, so high, so broad;
The Trinity whom we adore
Forever and forevermore.

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Looking forward to Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

September 22, 2024

HYMNS: 578, 557, 828

Proverbs 25:6-14

Ephesians 4:1-6

Luke 14:1-11