

Congregation at Prayer July 9, 2017

The Gospel is good news for the Pauls of the world. To those of us who find ourselves in that endless cycle of desiring to do what is right in God's eyes but failing, it is a tremendous relief to hear of Jesus delivering us from our body of death.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer for Daily Use

(Pray and confess out loud as much of the Order of Meditation as possible)

Theme for the Week: Come to me

Invocation (Spoken while making the sign of the cross to remember your baptism)
In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostle's Creed

Learn by Heart Verse (Practice saying this verse word for word, out loud, throughout the day) **1**
Romans 12:14–15 (ESV) Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

The Fifth Petition And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.	Kindergarten +
<i>What does this mean?</i> We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.	Third Grade +

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday	Be Merciful as Your Father is Merciful—Luke 6:36-42
Monday	The Purpose of Parables—Matthew 13:10-23
Tuesday	The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares—Matthew 13:24-35
Wednesday	Parables of the Kingdom—Matthew 13:36-46
Thursday	The Parable of the Dragnet—Matthew 13:47-58
Friday	John the Baptist Is Beheaded—Matthew 14:1-13
Saturday	Looking Ahead

Daily Themes for Prayer:

Sunday: Pray for those who help lead us in worship: our Pastors, our Elders, our organists, and Praise Team.

Pray that God's people are actively engaged as they worship. Pray for those who serve in our military and for our chaplains as they proclaim the Gospel.

Monday: Pray for the unemployed and underemployed; pray for the homeless in our community; pray for the ministries of DayBreak and MorningStar in our community; pray for the ministry of Feed My Starving Children.

Tuesday: Pray for our CrossRoad Life Recovery ministry and its leaders. Pray that this important ministry would continue to expand among us and through us. Pray that it might impact other congregations and communities around the country.

Wed: Pray for the ministries of our congregation: Braille, CrossRoad Life Recovery, DayBreak, Operation Christmas Child, Quilters, Sunny Hill, Spiritual Vitamins. Pray that new ministries might be developed among us that will impact lives through our serving.

Thursday: Pray also for ministries in our community: Guardian Angel Home, Joliet Area Hospice, Lambs Fold, Living Alternatives, Stepping Stones, Trinity Services.

Friday: Pray for our communities and neighborhoods; for our words of witness and acts of mercy to our neighbors.

Saturday: Pray that people would see the need to come to worship this weekend. Pray that we would be a welcoming, non-judgmental community of faith for them as they come.

Lord's Prayer

Going with God's Blessing

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Looking Ahead (Take a look at the readings for next Sunday)