

The Congregation at Prayer

For the week of *The 19th Sunday after Trinity*

Sunday, October 7, 2018 through Saturday, October 13, 2018

“The Incarnation Secures for Us Life, Forgiveness, and Healing”

Genesis 28:10-17; Ephesians 4:22-28; Matthew 9:1-8

The Lord does not require us to ascend to Him. In mercy, He descends to us (Genesis 28:10–17). The ladder in Jacob’s dream was not for climbing. It was the means by which the Lord came to bless Jacob. This event finds its fulfillment in Christ who descended from His throne to save and bless us. By His incarnation He is the eternal bridge between Heaven and earth. **“The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”** (Matthew 9:1–8). The Lord was present in the flesh to absolve the paralytic. Jesus also healed and restored this man’s body. “For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation” (Luther’ Small Catechism). The Lord still has power on earth to forgive sins. In Holy Absolution, He raises up the new man (Ephesians 4:22–28) and bestows the healing medicine which will bring about our resurrection on the Last Day. Thus we say with Jacob, **“This is none other than the House of God, and this is the Gate of Heaven!”** (Genesis 28:17).

INVOCATION (*make the sign of the holy cross and say*)

In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the † life everlasting. Amen.

PSALM Psalm 84

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

Article IV: Of Justification

See *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, pp. 32-33, 82-102

DAILY READINGS

- Sunday, October 7: Deuteronomy 6:10-25
Matthew 9:18-38
- Monday, October 8: Deuteronomy 7:1-19
Matthew 10:1-23
- Tuesday, October 9: Deuteronomy 8:1-20
Matthew 10:24-42
- Wednesday, October 10: Deuteronomy 9:1-22
Matthew 11:1-19
- Thursday, October 11: Deuteronomy 9:23-10:22
Matthew 11:20-30
- Friday, October 12: Deuteronomy 11:1-25
Matthew 12:1-21
- Saturday, October 13: Deuteronomy 11:26-12:12
Matthew 12:22-37

HYMN

Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

LSB 609:1,7

Jesus sinners doth receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and Heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open Heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave:
Jesus sinner doth receive.

PRAYERS

Almighty and merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep from us all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever You would have us do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

O Lord, look down from Heaven. Behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers: **[insert the names of family members, friends, church members, government officials, etc.]** Look upon them with the 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, our Lord. Amen.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but ✠ deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit ✠ be with us all. Amen.

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.

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT SUNDAY: *The 19th Sunday after Trinity*

Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 27 Ephesians 5:15-21 Matthew 22:1-14
Hymn of the Day *O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth* LSB 834