

The Congregation at Prayer

For the week of *The 9th Sunday after Trinity*

Sunday, August 18, 2019 *through* Saturday, August 24, 2019

“The Steward’s Shrewdness Sanctified”

2 Samuel 22:26-34; 1 Corinthians 10:6-13; Luke 16:1-13

“The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness” (Luke 16:1–9). The steward’s shrewdness is praiseworthy for two reasons. First, he knew the master would be merciful. He trusted that the master would honor the debts he forgave in the master’s name. In the same way, though we have squandered our Heavenly Father’s possessions in selfishness and sin, Jesus is the Steward who has canceled our debt, knowing that His forgiveness will be honored by the Father because of the holy cross. Secondly, the steward was shrewd in using oil and wheat to provide for his earthly welfare. So also do these earthly elements aid us when pressed into heavenly use in the anointing of baptism and the wheat of the Lord’s Supper. Those who have the Sacraments will have an eternal home when their earthly home fails. These provide us aid in times of temptation (1 Corinthians 10:6–13). For the Lord is our strength and a shield to all who trust in Him (2 Samuel 22:26–34).

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 51

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION *XXVIII: Church Authority & Conclusion*

See Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions, pp. 57-63, 247-251

DAILY READINGS

- Sunday, August 18: 2 Samuel 7:18-9:13
1 Corinthians 10:23-11:16
- Monday, August 19: 2 Samuel 10:1-11:27
1 Corinthians 11:17-34
- Tuesday, August 20: 2 Samuel 12:1-31 [13:1-24:25]
1 Corinthians 12:1-13
- Wednesday, August 21: 1 Kings 1:1-53
1 Corinthians 12:14-31
- Thursday, August 22: 1 Kings 2:1-46
1 Corinthians 13:1-16:24

Friday, August 23: 1 Kings 3:1-4:34
2 Corinthians 1:1-22

Saturday, August 24: 1 Kings 5:1-7:50
2 Corinthians 1:23-2:17

HYMN

What Is the World to Me

LSB 730:1, 3

What is the world to me	The world seeks after wealth
With all its vaunted pleasure	And all that mammon offers
When You, and You alone,	Yet never is content
Lord Jesus, are my treasure!	Though gold should fill its coffers.
You only, dearest Lord,	I have a higher good,
My soul's delight shall be;	Content with it I'll be:
You are my peace, my rest.	My Jesus is my wealth.
What is the world to me!	What is the world to me!

PRAYERS

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; 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, those in need, 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

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.

Evening

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.

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.

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT SUNDAY: The 10th Sunday after Trinity (Trinity 10)

Jeremiah 7:1-11

Psalm 92

Romans 9:30-10:4

Luke 19:41-48

Hymn of the Day

The Church's One Foundation

LSB 644