

The Congregation at Prayer

For the week of *The 20th Sunday after Trinity*

Sunday, October 14, 2018 *through* Saturday, October 20, 2018

“Jesus Invites Us to His Wedding Feast to Receive Abundant Righteousness”

Isaiah 55:1-9; Ephesians 5:15-21; Matthew 22:1-14

The Holy Spirit sounds forth the Gospel call: **“See, I have prepared My dinner . . . Come to the wedding feast”** (Matthew 22:1–14). But many reject this invitation in favor of worldly pursuits. And so the call goes out to others, both the good and the bad. For the wedding invitation is not based on the qualifications of those invited but on the basis of the merits and work of Christ. The feast is free: **“He who has no money, come, buy and eat . . . delight yourselves in rich food”** (Isaiah 55:1–9). Those rejecting the Spirit’s work shall experience God’s wrath and judgment. Those who are not clothed in Christ’s righteousness shall be cast into outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Let us therefore seek the Lord while He may be found, for He will have mercy upon us. Let us redeem the time, being filled with the Spirit, **“giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ”** (Ephesians 5:15–21).

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 27

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

Article V: Of The Ministry

See *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, pp. 33, 82-143

DAILY READINGS

- Sunday, October 14: Deuteronomy 12:13-32
Matthew 12:38-50
- Monday, October 15: Deuteronomy 13:1-18
Matthew 13:1-23
- Tuesday, October 16: Deuteronomy 14:1-15:15
Matthew 13:24-43
- Wednesday, October 17: Deuteronomy 15:16-16:22
Matthew 13:44-58
- Thursday, October 18: Deuteronomy 17:1-20
Matthew 14:1-21
- Friday, October 19: Deuteronomy 18:1-22
Matthew 14:22-36
- Saturday, October 20: Deuteronomy 19:1-20
Matthew 15:1-20

HYMN

O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

LSB 834:1,3

O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth,
Thy living finger never wrote
 That life should be an aimless mote,
 A deathward drift from futile birth.
Thy Word meant life triumphant hurled
In splendor through Thy broken world.
 Since light awoke
 and life began,
Thou hast desired Thy life for man.

Thou camest to our hall of death,
O Christ, to breathe our poisoned air,
 To drink for us the dark despair
 That strangled our reluctant breath.
How beautiful the feet that trod
The road that leads us back to God!
 How beautiful
 the feet that ran
To bring the great good news to man!

PRAYERS

O Lord, grant to Your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve You with a quiet mind; 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 21st Sunday after Trinity*

Genesis 1:1-2:3	Psalm 8	Ephesians 6:10-17	John 4:46-54
Hymn of the Day	<i>From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee</i>		LSB 607