

The Congregation at Prayer

For the week of *The 18th Sunday after Trinity*

Sunday, October 20 through Saturday, October 26

“In Life and Death, Christ Fulfills the Law of God”

Deuteronomy 10:12-21; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Matthew 22:34-46

The Pharisees ask a Law question. Jesus asks a Gospel question. The Pharisees seek to test Jesus in His own words. Jesus seeks to “test” them in the saving reality of who He is as the Messiah (Matthew 22:34–46). The Law requires you to **“fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul”** and to **“love the sojourner”** (Deuteronomy 10:12–21). Failure to keep the Law perfectly brings judgment. On the other hand, the Gospel brings the grace of God given by Jesus Christ, that you may be blameless in the day of His return (1 Corinthians 1:1–9). Jesus is David’s Son yet David’s Lord, true God and true man. He is Love incarnate who fulfilled all the demands of God’s Law on our behalf, that we might be saved from the Law’s condemnation and sanctified in the Gospel’s forgiveness. Thereby we see that **“God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord”** (1 Corinthians 1:9).

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.

PSALMODY

Psalm 34

THE SMALCALD ARTICLES

The 3rd Part: Article I—Sin

See Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions, p. 270-271

DAILY READINGS

Sunday, October 13: Deuteronomy 11:26-12:12
Matthew 12:22-37

Monday, October 14: Deuteronomy 12:13-32
Matthew 12:38-50

Tuesday, October 15: Deuteronomy 13:1-18
Matthew 13:1-23

Wednesday, October 16: Deuteronomy 14:1-15:15
Matthew 13:24-43

Thursday, October 17: Deuteronomy 15:16-16:22
Matthew 13:44-58

Friday, October 18: Deuteronomy 17:1-20
Matthew 14:1-21

Saturday, October 19: Deuteronomy 18:1-22
Matthew 14:22-36

HYMN

Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

LSB 708:1,3

Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from me depart, With tender mercy cheer me. Earth has no pleasure I would share. Yea, Heav'n itself were void and bare If Thou, Lord wert not near me. And should my heart for sorrow break, My trust in Thee can nothing shake. Thou art the portion I have sought; Thy precious blood my soul has bought. Lord, Jesus Christ, my God and Lord, my God and Lord, Forsake me not! I trust Thy Word.	Lord, let at last Thine angels come, To Abr'ham's bosom bear me home, That I may die unfearing; And in its narrow chamber keep My body safe in peaceful sleep Until Thy reappearing. And then from death awaken me, That these mine eyes with joy may see, O Son of God, Thy glorious face, My Savior and my fount of grace. Lord, Jesus Christ, my prayer attend, my prayer attend, And I will praise Thee without end.
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PRAYERS

O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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 Festival of the Reformation*

Revelation 14:6-7 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 John 8:31-36

Hymn of the Day *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* LSB 657