# THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

# The Cry of Faith: "Lord, Have Mercy"

Proverbs 4:10–23; Galatians 5:16–24; Luke 17:11–19

The ten lepers cried out from a distance, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" (Luke 17:11–19). Their condition cut them off from God and others. In a similar way, the works of the flesh cut us off from God and others. "Those who do such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:16–24). Thus we cry out with the lepers, "Lord, have



mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy," eagerly seeking His good gifts. Jesus said to the lepers, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. So too, we walk by faith and not by sight, being confident of Jesus' help before we see any evidence of it, trusting that Jesus'

cleansing words of forgiveness will restore us to wholeness in the resurrection. Let us be as the one leper who returned to the true High Priest to give Him thanks and glory. For Jesus bore our infirmities in His sacrifice at Calvary. His words are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh (Proverbs 4:10–23).

# → THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY →

## **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.

### 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 Heife everlasting.

## **PSALMODY** (sing or read out loud each day)

Psalm 119

# **LEARN BY HEART LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM:** Daily Prayers — Returning Thanks

Also, after eating, they shall, in like manner, reverently and with folded hands say:

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever. He gives food to every creature. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the Lord delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love. (Psalms 136:1, 25; 147:9-11)

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:

We thank You, Lord God, Heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

# **DAILY READINGS**

Sunday:	Psalm 75	1 Kings 9:1-9	Ezekiel 37	Romans 8:1-17
Monday:	Psalm 76	1 Kings 9:10-10:29	Ezekiel 38	Romans 8:18-39
Tuesday:	Psalm 77	1 Kings 11	Ezekiel 39	Romans 9:1-29
Wednesday:	Psalm 78	1 Kings 12:1-15	Ezekiel 40	Romans 9:30-10:21
Thursday:	Psalm 79	1 Kings 12:16-33	Ezekiel 41-42	Romans 11
Friday:	Psalm 80	1 Kings 13	Ezekiel 43	Romans 12
Saturday:	Psalm 81	1 Kings 14:1-20	Ezekiel 44	Romans 13

### **PRAYERS**

The following suggestions are offered as an aid in developing the habit of praying for ourselves and others each week:

<u>Sunday</u>: For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by Word and Sacrament.

<u>Monday</u>: For faith to live in the promise of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

<u>Tuesday</u>: For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

<u>Wednesday</u>: For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to God's Word; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

<u>Thursday</u>: For the Church and her pastors; for deacons, teachers, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

<u>Friday</u>: For faithful preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

<u>Saturday</u>: For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors as they prepare to administer and for people as they prepare to receive Christ's holy gifts.

O Lord, keep Your Church with Your perpetual mercy; and because of our frailty we cannot but fall, keep us ever by Your help from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

### **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.