

THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

Faith Comes from Hearing

Isaiah 29:17–24; 2 Corinthians 3:4–11; Mark 7:31–37

A man who was deaf, and therefore also had an impediment to his speech, was brought to Jesus (Mark 7:31–37). Similarly, all of us are by nature deaf toward God and also unable to confess the faith rightly, for **“faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ”** (Romans 10:9–17). Jesus put His fingers into the man’s ears,



and He spat and touched His tongue. In Holy Baptism, water sanctified by the words of Jesus’ mouth is applied to us, and the finger of God, that is, the Life–Giving Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:4–11) is put into our ears in the hearing of the Gospel. Jesus’ sighing, **“Ephphatha,”** opened the man’s

ears and freed his tongue so that he could speak plainly. Isaiah had prophesied of the Messiah: **“In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book”** (Isaiah 29:18–24). So also, He who sighed and breathed His last on the cross for us, has given us ears to hear and faith to believe in Him, and has opened our lips that our mouths may declare His praise.

✠ THE TWELFTH 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 † life everlasting.

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

Psalm 146

LEARN BY HEART LUTHER’S SMALL CATECHISM: Daily Prayers — *Asking a Blessing*

The children and members of the household shall go to the table reverently, fold their hands, and say:

The eyes of all look to You, O Lord, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. (Psalm 145:15–16)

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

Lord God, Heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DAILY READINGS

Sunday:	Psalm 68	1 Kings 3	Ezekiel 29-30	Romans 3:9-20
Monday:	Psalm 69	1 Kings 4	Ezekiel 31	Romans 3:21-31
Tuesday:	Psalm 70	1 Kings 5	Ezekiel 32	Romans 4
Wednesday:	Psalm 71	1 Kings 6	Ezekiel 33	Romans 5:1-11
Thursday:	Psalm 72	1 Kings 7	Ezekiel 34	Romans 5:12-21
Friday:	Psalm 73	1 Kings 8:1-21	Ezekiel 35	Romans 6
Saturday:	Psalm 74	1 Kings 8:22-66	Ezekiel 36	Romans 7

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Praise the Almighty

LSB 797

PRAYERS

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

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

Monday: 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.

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

Wednesday: 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.

Thursday: 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.

Friday: 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.

Saturday: 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.

Almighty and Merciful God, by Your gift alone Your faithful people render true and laudable service. Help us steadfastly to live in this life according to Your promises and finally attain Your Heavenly Glory; 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.

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT SUNDAY: *The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity*

2 Chronicles 8:8–15

Psalm 32

Galatians 3:15–22

Luke 10:23–37

Hymn of the Day

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

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