

THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

The Lord Feeds His People

Isaiah 49:8–13; Galatians 4:21–31; John 6:1–15

The Lord provided bread from Heaven for His people in the wilderness (Exodus 16:2–21). Now, He who is Himself the Living Bread from Heaven miraculously provides bread for five thousand men plus women and children (John 6:1–15). This takes place near the



time of the Passover, after a great multitude had followed Jesus across the sea, and when He went up on a mountain. Seen in this way, Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mount Sinai and makes us free children of the promise (Galatians 4:21–31). Five loaves become twelve baskets—that is, the five

books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the bread of life (the body of Christ together with His precious blood), and in the prayers (Acts 2:41–47). God’s people “**shall not hunger or thirst**” (Isaiah 49:8–13), for He abundantly provides for us in both body and soul.

✠ LAETARE ✠

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 132

LEARN BY HEART LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM: The Lord's Prayer

The Introduction

Our Father who art in Heaven.

What does this mean?

With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

DAILY READINGS

Sunday:	Psalm 119:89-176	Leviticus 26	Isaiah 35	Ephesians 4:17-32
Monday:	Psalm 120	Leviticus 27	Isaiah 36-37	Ephesians 5:1-21
Tuesday:	Psalm 121	Numbers 1	Isaiah 38	Ephesians 5:22-6:9
Wednesday:	Psalm 122	Numbers 2	Isaiah 39	Ephesians 6:10-24
Thursday:	Psalm 123	Numbers 3-4	Isaiah 40	Philippians 1:1-26
Friday:	Psalm 124	Numbers 5	Isaiah 41	Philippians 1:27-2:11
Saturday:	Psalm 125	Numbers 6	Isaiah 42	Philippians 2:12-30

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

LSB 743

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 God, our Heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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: *Judica* (Lent 5)

Genesis 22:1–14

Psalm 43

Hebrews 9:11–15

John 8:42–59

Hymn of the Day

My Song Is Love Unknown

LSB 430