

V: I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart.

**R: I will glorify Your name forever.**

V: May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

**R: May those who love Your salvation always say, Let God be exalted.**

V: Save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

**R: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

V: Hear my prayer, O Lord.

**R: Listen to my cry for mercy.**

### The Collect

Almighty, everlasting God, cause us always to have a devout will toward You and to serve Your majesty with a pure heart; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

In our prayers: Pastor, Sheila Cornelius, Aaron Cornelius, Jackie Caudill, Ashley Lopez, Jack Kyser, Jeff Houston

### Luther's Evening Prayer (prayed together)

**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 wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

V: Let us bless the Lord.

**R: Thanks be to God.**

V: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, + and bring us to everlasting life.

**R: Amen.**

### **Looking Forward to Next Week**

**Pentecost Sunday- 11 May 2008**

OT Lesson: Genesis 11: 1- 9

Epistle Lesson: Acts 2: 1- 21

Gospel Lesson: John 14: 23- 31

Sermon: The Giving of the Spirit

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

**The week of Exaudi**

May 4-10, 2008

## **The Church Calendar**

### **May 9 – Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop and Theologian**

There is a traditional list of eight great Doctors (Teachers, Theologians) of the ancient Church. It lists four Western (Latin) Doctors -- Ambrose of Milan, Augustine of Hippo, Jerome of Strido, and Gregory the Great (Pope Gregory I) -- and four Eastern (Greek) Doctors -- Athanasius of Alexandria, John Chrysostom of Antioch and Constantinople, Basil the Great, and Gregory of Nazianzus (also called Gregory Nazianzen).

Gregory of Nazianzus, his friend Basil the Great, and Basil's brother Gregory of Nyssa, are jointly known as the Cappadocian Fathers (Cappadocia is a region in what is now Central Turkey).

In 379, after the death of the Arian Emperor Valens, Gregory was asked to go to Constantinople to preach there. For thirty years, the city had been controlled by Arians or pagans, and the orthodox did not even have a church there. Gregory went. He converted his own house there into a church and held services in it. There he preached the **Five Theological Orations** for which he is best known, a series of five sermons on the Trinity and in defense of the deity of Christ. People flocked to hear him preach, and the city was largely won over to the Athanasian (Trinitarian, catholic, orthodox) position by his powers of persuasion. The following year, he was consecrated bishop of Constantinople. He presided at the Council of Constantinople in 381, which confirmed the Athanasian position of the earlier Council of Nicea in 325. Having accomplished what he believed to be his mission at Constantinople, and heartily sick of ecclesiastical politics, Gregory resigned and retired to his home town of Nazianzus, where he died in 389.

**Collect:** Almighty God, who hast revealed to thy Church thine eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like thy bishop Gregory of Nazianzus, we may continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of thee, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who livest and reignest for ever and ever.

(Taken from James Kiefer's Christian Biographies)

## The Daily Office

V: O Lord, open my lips;

**R: and my mouth will declare your praise**

V: Make haste, O God, to + deliver me;

**R: make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.**

Daily Psalms: (Use either or both)

Su-93/136; Mo-97/124; Tu-98/66; We-99/8; Th-47/68;

Fri-96/50; Sa-92/23

### The Readings (Sunday-Saturday)

	Old Testament	New Testament	Optional
Sun	Numbers 14:1-25	Luke 18:18-34	Treatise 22-38
Mon	Numbers 14:26-45	Luke 18:35-19:10	Numbers 15:1-41
Tue	Numbers 16:1-22	Luke 19:11-28	Treatise 39-48
Wed	Numbers 16:23-40	Luke 19:29-48	Treatise 49-59
Thu	Numbers 16:41-17:13	Luke 20:1-18	Num. 18:1-19:22
Fri	Numbers 20:1-21	Luke 20:19-44	Treatise 60-72
Sat	Numbers 20:22-21:9	Luke 20:45-21:19	Treatise 73-82

### The Catechism – The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

*What is baptism?*

**Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.**

*Which is that word of God?*

**Christ says in the last chapter of Matthew:**

**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

*What benefits does baptism give?*

**It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.**

*Which are these words and promises of God?*

**Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark:**

**Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.**

Hymn: LW # 387 Praise and Thanks and Adoration

### Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

### The Lord's Prayer (prayed together)

**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.**

### The Creed (confessed by all)

**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 sits 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.**

### The Litany

V: O Lord, hear my prayer.

**R: And let my cry come to You.**

V: In the day of my trouble I call to you

**R: For You answer me.**

V: Hide Your face from my sins.

**R: And blot out all my iniquity.**

V: Create in me a clean heart, O God.

**R: And renew a right spirit within me.**

V: Do not cast me away from Your presence.

**R: And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.**

V: Restore to me the joy of your salvation.

**R: And uphold me with a willing Spirit.**

V: Because Your lovingkindness is better than life.

**R: My lips shall praise You**

V: Because You have been my help.

**R: Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice.**

V: Teach me Your way, O Lord, and I will walk in Your truth.

**R: Give me an undivided heart that I may fear Your name.**