

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

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 and merciful God, whose gift it is that Your faithful possess all things pertaining to faith and life, we implore You that we may so faithfully cling to Your promises in this life that we fail not finally to attain to 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.

In our prayers: Pastor, Kimberly Simone, Jack Kaiser, Jerry Massie

### 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**

**17 August - 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity-**

OT Lesson: 2 Chronicles 28: 8- 15

Epistle Lesson: Galatians 3: 15- 22

Gospel Lesson: Luke 10: 23- 37

Sermon: Christ, Our Good Samaritan!

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

**The 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Trinity**

August 10-16, 2008

## **The Church Calendar**

### **August 10 – Laurence, Deacon and Martyr**

Laurence (or Lawrence) was chief of the seven deacons of the congregation at Rome, the seven men who, like Stephen and his companions (Acts 6:1-6), were in charge of administering the church budget, particularly with regard to the care of the poor. In 257, the emperor Valerian began a persecution aimed chiefly at the clergy and the laity of the upper classes. All Church property was confiscated and meetings of Christians were forbidden. The bishop of Rome, Sixtus II, and most of his clergy were executed on 7 August 258, and Laurence on the 10th. This much from the near-contemporary records of the Church.

The accounts recorded about a century later by Ambrose (see 7 Dec) and the poet Prudentius say that, as Sixtus was being led to his death, Laurence followed him, saying, "Will you go to heaven and leave me behind?" and that the bishop replied, "Be comforted, you will follow me in three days." They go on to say that the Roman prefect, knowing that Laurence was the principal financial officer, promised to set him free if he would surrender the wealth of the Church. Laurence agreed, but said that it would take him three days to gather it. During those three days, he placed all the money at his disposal in the hands of trustworthy stewards, and then assembled the sick, the aged, and the poor, the widows and orphans of the congregation, presented them to the prefect, and said, "These are the treasures of the Church." The enraged prefect ordered him to be roasted alive on a gridiron. Laurence bore the torture with great calmness, saying to his executioners at one time, "You may turn me over; I am done on this side." The spectacle of his courage made a great impression on the people of Rome, and made many converts, while greatly reducing among pagans the belief that Christianity was a socially undesirable movement that should be stamped out.

**Collect:** Almighty God, who didst call thy deacon Laurence to serve thee with deeds of love, and didst give him the crown of martyrdom: Grant, we beseech thee, that we, following his example, may fulfil thy commandments by defending and supporting the poor, and by loving thee with all our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

## 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.**

Daily Psalms: (Use either or both)

Su-19/113; Mo-136/112; Tu-123/86; We-15/4; Th-36/27;

Fri-130/139; Sa-56/62

### The Readings (Sunday-Saturday)

	Old Testament	New Testament	Optional
Sun	1 Sam 25:23-44	1 Cor. 4:1-21	FC SD 2:8-16
Mon	1 Sam 26:1-25	1 Cor. 5:1-13	1 Sam. 27:1-28:2
Tue	1 Sam 28:3-25	1 Cor. 6:1-20	1 Sam. 29:1-30:30
Wed	1 Sam 31:1-13	1 Cor. 7:1-24	FC SD 2:17-24
Thu	2 Sam 1:1-27	1 Cor. 7:25-40	FC SD 2:25-35
Fri	2 Sam 5:1-25	1 Cor. 8:1-13	FC SD 2:36-47
Sat	2 Sam 6:1-19	1 Cor. 9:1-23	FC SD 2:48-58

### The Catechism – The Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

**1. Hallowed be Thy name.**

*What does this mean?*

**God’s name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.**

*How is God’s name kept holy?*

**God’s name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God’s Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!**

Hymn: LW 279 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

### 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.