

## **The Congregation at Prayer**

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following the Eleventh Sunday after  
Trinity  
(August 11<sup>th</sup> – August 17<sup>th</sup>)*

### **CATECHETICAL THEME:**

***To Youth, To Widows, and to Everyone***

#### **This Week's Catechetical Theme: To Youth, To Widows, and to Everyone**

We began this summer's catechetical series by studying our common Christian vocation—that each and every Christian is called to bear witness to Christ by virtue of his or her Baptism. We then began examining the specific vocations to which each of us may—or may not—be called: Husband or wife; father or mother; parent or child; employer or employee; government worker or citizen; and the list goes on! This week we examine those particular passages whereby the LORD gives specific duties to the youth, to widows, and all Christians by virtue of being part of the body of Christ. God bless your time in God's Word!

**Invocation:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### **The Ten Commandments & The Apostles' Creed**

#### **On Christian Freedom (Martin Luther)**

A Christian is the freest lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, subject to all. Although these statements appear to contradict each other, nevertheless, when they are found to agree, they will serve our purpose beautifully. For both are the statements of Paul himself, who says in 1 Corinthians 9[:19], "Though I be free, I have made myself the servant of all"; in Romans 13[:8], "Owe no one anything except that you love one another." Now love is by its own nature dutiful and obedient to that which is loved. Thus even Christ, though Lord of all things, was nevertheless made of woman, made under the Law [Galatians 4:4]. He was at the same time free and a servant, at the same time in the form of God and in the form of a servant (Martin Luther, *Christian Freedom*, p. 48).

<b>Daily Readings</b>	<b>Catechetical Narrative</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Pharisee and the Tax Collector Luke 18:9-14</b>		<b>Psalm 143</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>To Youth 1 Peter 5:5-6</b>	<b>Job 9</b>	<b>Psalm 144</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>To Widows 1 Timothy 5:5-6</b>	<b>Job 10</b>	<b>Psalm 145</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>To Everyone Romans</b>	<b>Job 11</b>	<b>Psalm 146</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>To Everyone 1 Timothy 2:1</b>	<b>Job 12</b>	<b>Psalm 147</b>

<b>Friday</b>	<b>The Good Samaritan Luke 10:29-37</b>	<b>Job 13</b>	<b>Psalms 148</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Isaiah 29:17-24</b>	<b>Romans 10:9-17</b>	<b>Psalms 149</b>

### Questions to Discuss in the Home

**Sun:** Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon.-Fri:** To what sort of person does the day's passage specifically speak? What is his or her place in life (vocation)? What duty does the LORD attach to this specific vocation? How is the Christian called to live in this vocation? How will the Body of Christ be built up by Christians who serve in this vocation? How is this an example of "loving and serving my neighbor"? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

### Memory Verse

The Commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Romans 13:9)

### In Our Prayers this Week

**For Circuit Vacancies:** Messiah Lutheran (Carlyle). **For Those Expecting:** Shelby Maschhoff. **For Those Recovering from Surgery:** Kim Childress (David Childress' Sister) Marilyn Edwards, Dawna Wander (Friend of Dave Childress), Sherri Williams. **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments/Testing:** Eli Kuper, Marla Corry, Beth Jones (daughter-in-law of Mike Jones), Alexis Tehandon (Granddaughter of Debra Wells). **For Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Barb Mueller, Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann. **Baptismal Birthday:** Victoria Siddell (8/11), Ron Albers (8/13), Jeff Kleiboeker (8/15); **Wedding Anniversaries:** Rev. Jonathan & Stefanie Jennings (8/14), Carl & Sharon Hanke, Jason & Elisha Brinkmann (8/16).

### The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism

**Hymn of the Week:** In the Very Midst of Life (LSB 755)