

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Pentecost 7
July 8-13, 2024

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able,
or as your family size and ages permit. Learn by heart the verse and catechism.*

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

Speak the Apostles' Creed.

Verse: Psalm 87:7 – “Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.”

Hymn of the Week: Lutheran Service Book #743 “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

Readings for the Week: [The readings for **Thursday-Saturday** are the Scriptures for this coming Sunday.]

Monday	Psalm 85	<i>How was God good and faithful to Israel? How is He the same for us? Why do we need restoring? How often? Why?</i>
Tuesday	Genesis 2:7-17	<i>How was man different than all other creatures God created? How did God treat him differently? Why?</i>
Wednesday	Romans 6:19-23	<i>What does it mean to consider yourself “dead to sin?” What does it mean to not let sin “reign” in you? How is this possible?</i>
Thursday	Amos 7:7-15	<i>What’s a plumb line? What does it show? If it shows there’s a problem, what’s at fault: the wall or the plumb line? Why? What is God’s plumb line? What does it show us?</i>
Friday	Ephesians 1:3-14	<i>When did God choose you? Was it after you chose Him, or before? What does this teach us? Why is this important?</i>
Saturday	Mark 6:14-29	<i>What was John the Baptist’s “crime?” What did God want for King Herod? What are the two ways we can respond to the preaching of the Law? Which is easier? But which leads to life?</i>

The Catechism – The Lord’s Prayer, The Fourth Petition [Part 1] – Give us this day our daily bread. *What does this mean?* God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

Collect for the Week: O Lord, You granted Your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

The Prayers: Please pray for . . .

- + yourself and for all in need (remembering especially those on our prayer list).
 - + God’s blessing, wisdom, and guidance for our congregation’s Building Committee.
 - + the Lutheran Church of Guatemala, for God’s wisdom, blessing, guidance, and provision.
 - + God’s blessing, guidance, and strength for our District President, Rev. Waldemar Vinovskis.
- Conclude with the Lord’s Prayer and Luther’s Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.*

Now joyfully go about your day (or to bed) in good cheer, child of God!

In our prayers this week, we remember:

Nancy, hospitalized and rehabilitating, **Jackie**, recovering from surgery, **Ruth**, still hospitalized, but improving, and **Joel** (friend of the Johnsons) for recovery from a serious stroke.

For those who are elderly and/or homebound: **Carris, Roy, Reinhardt, Robert** (Grace's grandfather), **Marilyn and Buddy** (Janet's parents), and **Charlie** (Eric's friend).

George and **Lena**, for protection, health, and strength.

Lee (friend of TJ and Randy), **Suress** (friend of Elizabeth), and **Maureen** (friend of the congregation), in need of a kidney for transplant; and **David** (Marcus' father) for safety.

For all with cancer, for Your strength, faith and hope, and endurance in their treatments: **Susan Kunkel, Elizabeth Libby, Nancy Nelson, Lynden** (Tuck's father), **Erika** (Carris' nephew's wife), **Tom** (Pastor's neighbor), **Linda** (Mickey's sister), **Brad** (Carris' brother-in-law), **Mary Ann** (former member), **Adriana** and **Kristen** (friends of the Killians), and **Pam** (friend of the Vondals).

The Vondal, Wing, Vigil, and Nus families for Your blessing, protection, strength, and faith.

Sophia and **Timothy** (friend of Marcus), for protection, and for peace and joy of heart and mind; and **Dorothy and Mackenzie**, for faith and God's continued work in their hearts and lives.

Jonathan Malekzadeh, Jacque (Mickey's sister), **Heidi** (Michael Vondal's fiancé), and **Nikki** (niece of Kathy Kielmeyer) for strength and healing.

Kristoffer (Lena's son) and **Jason** (friend of Elizabeth), for strength, hope, and faith.

Margherita (Lena's daughter-in-law), for good health for her and her baby.

Sahilis (Viviana's sister), **Scott** (friend of Scott Killian), **Thomas** (Angela Keiser's brother), **Traci** (friend of Elizabeth Libby) **and their families**, for unity, protection, peace, and faith.

Leslie, Dorris, and their children (from our Spanish Bible Study) for protection and faith, and for Your wisdom and guidance for the future.

Fatma (friend of our church), **Lindsey** (TJ's friend's daughter), **Suress, Huan, Joylyn, and Sandy** (friends of Elizabeth Libby), and **Tamim and his family** (friends of the Malekzadeh family), for the gift of faith.

For **Caleb Hoverson**, our adopted seminary student, and **Thomas Malmstrom**, also at the seminary; and **Nathaniel Hall** (Keiser's son-in-law) studying Greek this summer.

For the **Wolf family** (missionaries to Africa), **Rev. Rob Kieselowsky** (mission work in Philadelphia), and **Rev. Charles St-Onge** (mission work in Quebec), for blessing, provision, wisdom, and guidance.

The people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Gaza, for peace, protection, and an end to the war, and for God to provide for those separated and displaced, especially the children.

For those serving our country in the military: **Joe and Jackie Teixeira, Juliana Wing, Zechariah Vigil, Joshua Ecker**, and **John Boling** (friend of the Vondals).

For our catechumens: **Robert Libby, Juliana Malekzadeh, Amy and Dan Miksa**, and **Cyrus Teixeira**

Members and friends in prayer this week: **Susan Cassell**

For all who have placed their hope and trust in the name of Your beloved Son, but especially for those Christians in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Kenya, Sweden, Finland, the Sudan, and other countries, who endure serious and difficult persecution, even unto death.

For the Lord to bless **our mission church, Hope Lutheran Mission, in Purcellville**, and **our look into a possible Classical Lutheran School in central/western Fairfax County**.

Remember to pray for our church officers, board members, and teachers:

President: Peter Brondos
Vice President: Scott Killian
Recording Secretary: TJ Myers
Treasurer: Logan Hansen
Financial Secretary: Dave Fields
Executive Board, Member-at-Large: Rob Douthwaite

Board of Elders: Jay Hertel (Chair), Scott Killian

Board of Evangelism and Outreach: Kathy Kielmeyer, Elise Mertz, Nancy Nus, and Herb and Maria Prawius

Church Technology Council: Michael O'Connor, Rob Douthwaite, Jay Hertel, and Jonathan Malekzadeh

Building Committee: Rob Douthwaite, Jay Hertel, and Scott Killian

Investment Committee: Logan Hansen, Anthony Johnson, and Scott Killian

Social Media Coordinator: Rachel Hebert

Commission on Mercy: Nancy Nelson and Grace Killian

Sunday School Teachers: Laurie Douthwaite and Scott Killian

Pastoral Assistant: Grace Killian

For all who have placed their hope and trust in the name of Your beloved Son, but especially for those Christians in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Kenya, Sweden, Finland, the Sudan, and other countries, who endure serious and difficult persecution, even unto death.

For the Lord to bless a future **deaf mission at St. Athanasius, our mission church, Hope Lutheran Church, in Purcellville**, and **our look into a possible Classical Lutheran School in central/western Fairfax County**.

About this Sunday: The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

The Ministers of Christ Are Sent with His Authority to Forgive Sins and Give Life

The prophet Ezekiel was raised up by the Spirit of the Lord and sent to speak an unpopular Word to the rebellious house of Israel. As a prophet, he was not to speak his own word, but to preach the Law and the Gospel: “Thus says the Lord God,” whether the people “hear or refuse to hear” (Ezek. 2:4–5). So, too, in the footsteps of the prophets before Him, the Lord Jesus “went about among the villages teaching” (Mark 6:6). In His hometown, as elsewhere, “many who heard him were astonished,” marveling at His wisdom and at the “mighty works done by his hands,” and yet “they took offense at him” (Mark 6:2–3). The offense culminates in His cross, which is, ironically, the heart and center of His “authority over the unclean spirits” (Mark 6:7). It is by that authority of His cross that those He sends preach repentance, “cast out many demons” and heal the sick (Mark 6:12–13). Thus, the apostle Paul boasts in the cross of Christ and in his own weaknesses, knowing that God’s grace is sufficient and that the power of Christ “is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor. 12:8–9).



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This Week at Saint Athanasius

Monday-Friday
Wednesday, July 10
Thursday, July 11
Friday, July 12
Sunday, July 14

Morning Prayer on the Web, 7:00 am
Online Bible Study, 7:00 pm
Commission on Mercy, 7:00 pm
Community Table, 6:30 pm
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Private Absolution, 8:00 am
Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 am
Divine Service, 10:15 am
Executive Board, 12 Noon
Hope Lutheran Mission Divine Service, 2:00 pm

Next week's hymns: 667, 743, 634, 518 (v. 24), 655, 679

FOR YOU blog – Spread the word! hopeandhelp-foryou.blogspot.com

Community Table: You're invited to the next St. Athanasius Community Table, **this Friday** at 6:30pm at Herb and Maria Prawius's house! Our Board of Evangelism is starting up this new gathering as a chance to engage in fellowship, enjoy an informal dinner together, and to introduce ourselves to our friends and neighbors. This month, it's **for the ladies!** Bring yourselves or bring a friend! If interested, please RSVP to Herb and Maria.

Community Food Drive: We're still planning on this for the summer, just regrouping! Stay tuned for updated information on the days we'll advertise and gather the food. Thanks for your understanding and support.

Conference Live and On-Demand Video Stream . . . You can watch a live and recorded broadcast of the Issues, Etc. radio talk show and podcast, a hymn sing and three worship services from the "Making the Case" Conference Friday, July 12 and Saturday, July 13 at Concordia University Chicago. These events will be streamed live and on-demand at facebook.com/issuesetc. The speakers' presentations and Q & A sessions will not be streamed.

Life Thought: "Know that you too have been called to serve on behalf of life at such a time as this. God continually equips you, and you will be in awe of what He is able to do in and through you. The best part is He had it planned in the beginning (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:16; Ephesians 2:10). May you be blessed as you continue to serve life in His image!" *Jordan Killinger is President of Rice for Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Coming Soon (*Mark your calendars!*) . . .

Advertising for food drive (door hangers & flyers), TBA
Community food drive, TBA
Potluck Lunch and Zoom with the Wolf Family, July 21



Create cards to bring some cheer to a cancer patient. Be one of "**Phil's Friends!**" See Nancy Nelson or Grace Killian for more information.