

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

Ninth Week after Trinity

July 28, 2024, through August 4, 2024

Patristic Quote for the Week : CHRYSOSTOM (344-407AD): Do not think that I am lamenting as I say this. “I do not consider my life so precious.” He says this to elevate their mind and to persuade them not only not to flee but to bear it nobly. For this reason he calls it “course” and “ministry”: “course,” or “race,” because of the glory; “ministry,” because of the obligation. I am a minister, he says; I have nothing more. HOMILIES ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 44.¹

Life Thoughts-- Temptations to idolatry exist today as they did in biblical times. The great idol “Death” draws many to its altar. They look to death for rescue from a crisis pregnancy or chronic disease or pain. Death’s allure is so great it even tempts Christians to bow before it. But we have a way out of such temptations to faithlessness: “God is faithful” (1 Corinthians 10:1-13). Christ our “Rock” never leaves us (10:4). We can trust in Him. *Rock of our salvation, may Your faithful service to us through Your cross and resurrection move us to be faithful to You. Amen.*

Stewardship Thoughts-- Luke 16:8-9 – “For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.” The things of this world, including wealth, are merely tools. They can be used for good or ill. They can be squandered or used efficiently. How we use them will be determined by what is most important to us. What is most important to you in your life? Does the way you use the things of this world reflect that?

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 dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostles’ Creed

Verse: Luke 16:12

“No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Read or Chant Psalm 26

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun., July 28	Gospel Lesson, Ninth Sunday after Trinity—Luke 16:1-9	Jeremiah 23:16-29
Mon., July 29	You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ—2 Corinthians 8:1-24	1 Kings 3:16-28
Tues., July 30	He who sows sparingly—2 Corinthians 9:1-15	1 Kings 4:22-34
Wed, July 31	It is not the man who commends himself—2 Corinthians 10:7-18	1 Kings 5:1-18
Thurs, August 1	I betrothed you to Christ—2 Corinthians 11:1-18	2 Chronicles 3:1-17
Fri., August 2	Christ...was crucified in weakness...-2 Corinthians 12:19-13:14	1 Kings 8:1-66
Sat., August 3	If anyone is preaching a false gospel—Galatians 1:1-24	1 Kings 7:1-12
Sun., August 4	Gospel Lesson, Tenth Sunday after Trinity—Luke 19:41-48	Jeremiah 7:1-11

¹ Martin, Francis, and Evan Smith, eds. 2006. [Acts](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Pray the Collect for the Ninth Sunday after Trinity:

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Personal Prayers and Petitions

Lord's Prayer

Hymn of the Week

What is the World to Me

LSB 730

sts. 1–5

1 What is the world to me
With all its vaunted pleasure
When You, and You alone,
Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord,
My soul's delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest.
What is the world to me!

2 The world seeks to be praised
And honored by the mighty
Yet never once reflects
That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize
Above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone.
What is the world to me!

3 The world seeks after wealth
And all that mammon offers
Yet never is content
Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good,
Content with it I'll be:
My Jesus is my wealth.
What is the world to me!

4 What is the world to me!
My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth,
My friend, my love, my pleasure,
My joy, my crown, my all,
My bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare:
What is the world to me!

Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Text: Public domain

Looking forward to Tenth Sunday after Trinity

August 4, 2024

HYMNS: 644, 642, 602, 619, 643

Jeremiah 7:1-11

Romans 9:30-10:4

Luke 19:41-48