

The Congregation at Prayer
A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of Pentecost 7
July 13-18, 2026

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: Romans 8:18 – *“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.”*

Hymn of the Week: Lutheran Service Book #754 “Entrust Your Days and Burdens”

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

Monday	Psalm 119:57–64	<i>How do the words and promises of God change us and guide and shape our lives?</i>
Tuesday	Genesis 2:7-17	<i>What food did God give man? What food did He <u>not</u> give? Why? What was God teaching? How are we still learning this today?</i>
Wednesday	Mark 8:1-9	<i>How does sin produce “desolate places?” How does Jesus provide for us in those places? What does He use? Who does He use?</i>
Thursday	Isaiah 44:6–8	<i>How does knowing who God is and what He has done help us not to fear? With such a God, what <u>is</u> there to fear? Why?</i>
Friday	Romans 8:18–27	<i>Do Christians suffer? How does suffering help us? Who helps us at such times? What does He do for us? What hope do we have?</i>
Saturday	Matt 13:24–30, 36–43	<i>Why is there evil in the world? Why doesn't God just get rid of it? When will He? What should we do as we wait for that day?</i>

The Catechism – The Lord's Prayer: The First Petition [part 1]: Hallowed by 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.

Collect for the Week: O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 congregational recording treasurer, Caroline Trundle.
 - + the Ev. Lutheran Church in South Sudan / Sudan, for God's wisdom, blessing, guidance, and provision.
 - + God's blessing, guidance, wisdom, and provision for the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty.
- 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:

Ava, Kyle, John and Billy (friends of Mike), **Scott** (Kathy's relative), **Christina** (friend of the congregation and former attender), **Tricia** (Mickey's neighbor), **Joel** (friend of the Johnsons), for continued healing and recovery.

Rachel, for wisdom, guidance, and faith.

For all with cancer, for Your strength, faith and hope, and endurance in their treatments: **Elizabeth Libby, Susan Kunkel, Fawn, Mary Ann, Britton and Tim** (John's cousins), **Katie** (friend of Whitney), **Jeremy** (Jacob's brother), **Anthony** (friend of Pastor), **Erika, Brad, Rita, and Pam** (relatives and friends of Mickey), **Linda** (Mickey's sister), and **Kristi, Jerry, Adriana, and Kristen** (friends of the Killians).

Melody, Amanda, Katrina (Anna's sister), **Susanna and Klara** (cousin and friend of Caroline) and their babies, for safe and healthy pregnancies and deliveries.

Joseph and Joanne, Mary Ann, Barbara (Laurie's mother), and all elderly and homebound.

Suress (friend of Elizabeth), in need of a kidney transplant; **David** (Marcus' father) for safety; and **Charlie** (Eric's friend), for health and peace.

Ava (friend of Grace Libby), **Leander, Melanie** (friend of Caroline), **Rene** (friend of Randy and TJ), **Jude and Tobias** (friends of Nancy), **Timothy** (friend of Marcus), **Kristoffer** (Lena's son), and **Jason** (friend of Elizabeth), for protection, peace, hope, strength, and faith.

Jonathan Malekzadeh, Lena, Greta (Lena's mother), **Jacque** (Mickey's sister), **Heidi** (Michael Vondal's fiancé), and **Nikki** (niece of Kathy) for strength and continued health.

Kim and Dan (friends of Ben) for their upcoming marriage.

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

Beth and Josh (friends of the Killians), **Sahilis** (Viviana's sister), **Scott** (friend of Scott Killian), **Thomas** (Angela's brother), **Traci** (friend of Elizabeth), **Dorothy and Mackenzie, 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), and **Tamim and his family** (friends of the Malekzadeh family), for the gift of faith.

For our adopted missionaries: **Rev. Chris and Jenny Yang** (Taiwan), the **Wolf family** (Africa), **Rev. Rob Kieselowsky** (Philadelphia), and **Rev. Charles Ferry** (Eurasia), for blessing, provision, wisdom, and guidance.

For our seminary students: **Rowan Turner** (4th year), **Peter Ventimiglia** (2nd year), **Nathaniel Hall** (Keisers' son-in-law, on vicarage), **Erik Preus** (vicarage), and **Thomas Malmstrom** (4th year).

For our catechumens: **Greta Bowser, Caleb Bradley, Liana Johnson, Grace Libby, and Etta, William, and Eloise Spencer.**

For our college students: **Joanna Douthwaite, Erik Eidsmoe, Nathaniel Faunce, Ben Galloway, Vincent Heuyer, Anna Kautz, Henry Magee, Caleb Malekzadeh, Tristan Price, Timothy Strand, and Joshua Vigil.**

The people of Ukraine and Russia, 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: **Jacqueline Teixeira, Nathaniel Faunce, Juliana Wing, Zechariah Vigil, and John Boling and his son Daniel** (friends of Mickey).

Members and friends in prayer this week: **Sarah Douthwaite**

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: Scott Killian
Vice President: Rob Douthwaite
Recording Secretary: Caroline Trundle
Treasurer: Logan Hansen
Financial Secretary: Dave Fields
Executive Board, Member-at-Large: John Schatz
Board of Elders: Jay Hertel (Chair), Scott Killian, Logan Hansen

Board of Evangelism and Outreach: Kathy Kieltmeyer (Chair) and Nancy Nus

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

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

Investment Committee: Logan Hansen and Scott Killian

Commission on Mercy: Grace Killian and Caroline Trundle

Sunday School Teachers: Scott and Grace Killian

Pastor's Assistant: Grace Killian

About this Sunday: The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Service: Divine Service 4 (page 203)

The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love

As “*the rain and the snow come down from heaven*” and “*water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout*” (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as “*an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off*” (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and “*indeed bears fruit*” (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who “*have received the Spirit of adoption as sons*” (Rom. 8:15). Thus being “*led by the Spirit of God,*” we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we “*also be glorified with him*” (Rom. 8:17).



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This Week at Saint Athanasius / Hope Lutheran Mission

Monday-Friday	Morning Prayer on the Web, 7:00 am
Monday-Saturday	<i>Pastor at Higher Things Conference, Colorado Springs, CO</i>
Sunday, July 19	<i>The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 am Divine Service, 10:15 am Executive Board, 12:00 Noone Hope Lutheran Mission Divine Service, 2:00 pm

Next week's hymns: 663, 754, 619, 664, 714, 819

Pastor will be away July 12-18 traveling to and serving as chaplain at the Higher Things Conference in Colorado. If you need pastoral care or assistance, please call our Elders, Jay Hertel (703.861.7025), Logan Hansen (414.659.1551) and Scott Killian (860.919.0846). They will be able to help you or arrange pastoral care in the case of an emergency.

Online Bible Study is on hiatus this week while Pastor is away.

Traveling this Summer? Don't forget to go to Church on Sunday wherever you are! If you need help finding a church where you will be, Pastor is happy to help. And please remember to bring back a bulletin with you! We get good ideas from other things churches are doing and how they do them. Thanks!

School Supplies: The Commission on Mercy is collecting school supplies for needy families this summer. Please bring any supplies you wish to donate **by next Sunday, July 19th** so we can get them to ECHO. Thanks in advance, and please see Grace or Caroline if you have any questions or need a copy of the supplies list.

Life Thought: "Realistically, most of us will never be more than ordinary, but that doesn't mean we're useless. God works through the ordinary, the mundane, and the commonplace. He worked through Esther, and He works through you to bless others in ways you may never know." *Grace MacPherson – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Opportunity for Service: Are you tech savvy? We always need folks to help us better use technology in our church, both to help us and for our outreach. Talk with Jay Hertel if you think you'd like to help us with this kind of stuff!

Opportunity for Study: From time to time Pastor conducts an adult catechesis class. This is for folks who would like to become members of our congregation and haven't yet been confirmed. But these classes are the perfect opportunity for you to join us and refresh what you learned before. They are offered on our WebEx video conferencing service. Watch for when the next class will be offered and give it a try!



Create cards to bring some cheer to a cancer patient. Be one of **“Phil’s Friends!”** See Caroline Trundle for more information.

Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Events

July 12-18	Pastor away at Higher Things Conference, Colorado Springs, CO
July 12 and 19	Bring School Supplies for Donation to Church
July 18-23	Synod Convention, Phoenix, AZ

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

It’s summer break! But many school-age children in our area need school supplies for the upcoming school year. The Commission on Mercy is collecting school supplies on July 12th and 19th to donate to the non-profit Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), Inc in Springfield. **(NEW items only, please!)**

Here is the list of their most-needed items:

- ✓ High School backpacks (17 to 19 inches high)
- ✓ #2 Yellow pencils (Ticonderoga brand)
- ✓ Elmers brand glue sticks, regular size
- ✓ Crayola brand broad markers
- ✓ Crayola brand fine tip markers
- ✓ Crayola brand colored pencils, 12 pack
- ✓ Crayola brand crayons, 24 pack
- ✓ Dry erase thin tip markers
- ✓ Blunt scissors
- ✓ COLLEGE RULE ONLY spiral notebooks
- ✓ WIDE RULE ONLY composition books
- ✓ Primary writing paper pads

- ✓ Loose leaf paper
- ✓ 3 x 5 lined index cards
- ✓ Paper folders with pockets
- ✓ Vinyl folders with prongs
- ✓ 2-inch binders
- ✓ Plastic pencil boxes
- ✓ Red ink pens

Please note: You don't have to donate one of each thing – just donate whatever you'd like to contribute and however much (or little) you'd like. Any donation of any size will be helpful and much appreciated.

The purpose of Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), Inc. is to help people in need in our community by assisting those who suffer the effects of long-term poverty as well as people who are experiencing an emergency need.

Thanks for your generosity and support!

