WEEK OF PRAYER

Thursday, September 4, 2025

Call to Worship

Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (Matthew 6:31-33)

Singing Praise to the Lord

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it,
Mount of God’s unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by thy help I’m come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand’ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I’m constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wand’ring heart to thee:
Prone to wander—Lord, I feel it—
Prone to leave the God I love;

Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Praise

Psalter Reading

Psalm 24
The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,
2 for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.
5 He will receive blessing from the Lord
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
6 Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

7 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
8 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!
9 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
10 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory!

Catechism Reflection

Q. 104. What do we pray for in the fourth petition?
A. In the fourth petition, which is, "***Give us this day our daily bread,***" we pray, that of God's free gift we may receive a competent portion of the good things of this life, and enjoy his blessing with them.

Corporate Confession of Sin

Gracious Father, who provides all that we need, we have put out of our minds every prospect of a future evil day. In our prosperity we have said, "We will never suffer setback." We have assumed that tomorrow will be just as prosperous as today, or even better. We have encouraged our souls to relax, to eat, drink and be merry. We have lived as though we had resources stored up for many years, never recognizing that this very night our souls could be required of us. We have trusted in uncertain riches more than in you, the living God. We have addressed gold, saying, "You are our hope." We have put our confidence in what you have provided rather than in you who are the provider. Forgive us, we pray, and turn our hearts toward you.

Personal Examination and Confession

Assurance of Pardon

O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.
And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities. (Psalm 130:6-7)

Continued Praise Through Singing

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Prayers of Intercession and Supplication

May we trust God to provide for our every need, in his perfect time.

Grace

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. (I John 3:1-3)