

FAITH IN THE WORD

For the week of The Fourth Sunday after Trinity
July 13 – July 19, AD 2025

We say it so often we have probably become rather numb to it. But the reality is that forgiveness of sins is the beating heart of the Christian faith. If there is no forgiveness for us in Christ, then we have no hope of ever obtaining eternal life. If God deals with us only according as we deserve, we will only have judgment and wrath forever. But the glorious news is that is exactly what God HASN'T done. Instead of holding our sins against us and turning His back on us, He draws even nearer to us. He takes our flesh and in that sinless flesh takes the guilt of all our sin. Through His Church, the Lord Jesus Christ pours out forgiveness to us poor sinners who most certainly don't deserve it. How then can we do anything less for those who sin against us? Indeed, what are we saying if we hold the sins of others against them and treat them as we imagine they deserve? Then we are denying the mercy that has been shown to us and asking God to deal with us in the exact same way - to remain angry with us, to avoid us, to ignore us, to run away from us. Forgiveness is what we ask for in the Fifth Petition of the Lord's Prayer which is at one time a petition of both great comfort and a petition that demands much of us. Have you forgiven your neighbor as God has forgiven you or are you holding your neighbor's sins and weaknesses against him? Let us flee to Christ for His undeserved mercy and forgiveness which have reconciled us to the Father and gladly and sincerely forgive all who sin against us.

Catechism

As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to the household. 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.

The Lord's Prayer – The Fifth Petition and Explanation

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

THE ORDER OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER

INVOCATION

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

APOSTLES' CREED

James 5:16 – *Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.*

Psalm 138

HYMN OF THE MONTH

“Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide” (LSB 585)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

① SUNDAY	LUKE 6:36-42	
② MONDAY	LUKE 12:35-48	LAMENTATIONS 1:18-22
③ TUESDAY	LUKE 12:49-59	LAM. 2:5-8, 11-12
④ WEDNESDAY	LUKE 13:1-9	LAMENTATIONS 2:13-17
⑤ THURSDAY	LUKE 13:10-17	LAMENTATIONS 2:18-22
⑥ FRIDAY	LUKE 13:18-35	LAMENTATIONS 3:1-18
⑦ SATURDAY	1KINGS 19:11-21	1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

PRAYERS

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

O Lord, grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by Your governance that Your Church may joyfully serve You in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER

SUNDAY: *The joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for our congregation's faithfulness to the Word of God.*

MONDAY: *Faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; our calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; government; peace; for the leaders of our congregation.*

TUESDAY: *Deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

WEDNESDAY: *For marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; parents who must rear their children alone; for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

THURSDAY: *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; for our congregation, our pastor and his family.*

FRIDAY: *For the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

SATURDAY: *For faithfulness to the end; the physically and mentally sick and those who are dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Those members and friends of our congregation who are serving in the military (and their families): Emma and Macarios Casanova (Army), Brandon Lowery (Navy), Ethan McCrillis (Marines), Ethan Sims (Air Force Reserves).
- Baptismal birthdays celebrated this week: Pastor Ulmer (16).
- Lisa and Randy Cooper, friends of Amanda Rose. Randy is suffering from kidney cancer that has come back after a period of remission and Lisa is providing care for him as well as her little granddaughter.
- Edith Wright, who was hospitalized this past week.
- Melanie Obenhaus and Vicky Cantrell, whose brother, Gene, was granted the crown of eternal life this past week.
- Those experiencing unemployment: Matt, Greg.
- Grace Hendrickson, Amanda Needham, Rachel Rojas, and Mariah Scholz for protection of mother and child in pregnancy.
- Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Doug Drawe, Antonia, Deanna, Dana Evans, Gaye, Georgette, Jill, Rachel Preuss, Kristina Wishmeyer, Jeannie Long, JE Purcell, Ron Lane, Abbe Fenner, Toni McClure, Sarah Wickam, Judy Michaels.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity – July 20, 2025

The Office of the Keys: What is the Office of the Keys? Where is this written? What do you believe according to these words.

Hymns: 913, 696, 544, 634, 585, 617, 923

Readings: 1 Kings 19:11-21, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, Luke 5:1-11

