

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 27, 2025

“Praying Boldly and Confidently”

AS WE GATHER

Prayer is a gift. Through faith in Jesus Christ, you are welcomed into the Father’s presence. As you approach the throne of God with both praise and petition, His Spirit grants you the grace to pray with confidence. As our worship service will show us, saints throughout the ages have experienced the privilege of pleading prayer. Jesus taught His disciples to pray—and He continues to teach us—that prayer is a gracious opportunity for children to come into their Father’s presence and have a conversation with Him. May your prayer life be strengthened and richly blessed as the Triune God reaches into your life to fill you with His presence and peace!

THE WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN #770 *“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*



- 1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feited; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?
Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

(please stand)

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins to God our heavenly Father, trusting that He receives us and hears us for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

P: With humble hearts, we confess together:

C: Father of all mercy and God of all consolation, we bow before You and confess our sinfulness. Your Holy Law, as we know it from the Ten Commandments, is like a mirror for our lives. It shows us how desperately we need Your forgiveness for our sins of thought, word, and deed. Even when we are not aware, we turn away from You when we should be turning toward You and to all others. Forgive us, Father. Have mercy on us, gracious Lord. Bring us the healing of body and soul that comes from the forgiveness of Christ. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE INTROIT Psalm 119:145–149; Antiphon: Psalm 50:15

P: “Call upon Me in the day of trouble;

C: I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

P: With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD!

C: I will keep Your statutes.

P: I call to You; save me, that I may observe Your testimonies.

C: I rise before dawn and cry for help; I hope in Your words.

P: My eyes are awake before the watches of the night,

C: that I may meditate on Your promise.

P: Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love;

C: O LORD, according to Your justice give me life.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: “Call upon Me in the day of trouble;

C: I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

THE HYMN OF PRAISE #793 *"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"*



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your
 2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple
 3 Fa - ther - like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
 4 An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; You be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
 frame He knows; In His hand He gent - ly bears us,
 face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,
 All who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
 al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
 al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

THE COLLECT

P: Let us pray: O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions may be pleasing before You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 18:17-33 (ESV)

The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has promised him." Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to Me. And if not, I will know." So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will You then sweep away the place and not

spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from You to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will You destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And He said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to Him and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." And the LORD went His way, when He had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE EPISTLE Colossians 2:6-19 (ESV)

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority. In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in Him. Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

(please stand)

THE VERSE *(spoken)* (Matthew 7:7)

P: Alleluia. I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you;

C: seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 11:1-13 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He finished, one of His disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” And He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.” And He said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and
was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE MEMORY VERSE *The Introduction to the Lord’s Prayer & What Does This Mean?*

From Luther’s Small Catechism

Our Father who art in heaven. *What does this mean?* With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #769 *"Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ"*



1 E - ter - nal Spir - it of the liv - ing Christ,
2 Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day;
3 Come with the strength I lack, bring vi - sion clear



I know not how to ask or what to say;
Help me to see Your pur - pose and Your will—
Of hu - man need; O give me eyes to see



I on - ly know my need, as deep as life,
Where I have failed, what I have done a - miss;
Ful - fill - ment of my life in love out-poured,



And on - ly You can teach me how to pray.
Held in for - giv - ing love, let me be still.
My life in You, O Christ; Your love in me.

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THE SERMON *"Praying Boldly and Confidently"* Text: Luke 11:1-13

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS (#704, vv. 1 & 3)

1 Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from Your holy face.

3 Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.

(please stand)

THE PRAYERS

(Each petition concludes with the following response: "Lord, in Your mercy:" "hear our prayer.")

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

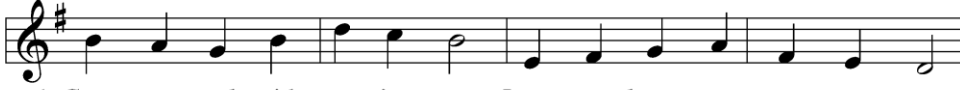
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✕ give you peace.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE CLOSING HYMN #779 "Come, My Soul, with Every Care"



1 Come, my soul, with ev - 'ry care, Je - sus loves to an - swer prayer;

2 Thou art com - ing to a King, Large pe - ti - tions with thee bring;

3 With my bur - den I be - gin: Lord, re - move this load of sin;

4 Lord, Thy rest to me im - part, Take pos - ses - sion of my heart;



He Him - self has bid thee pray, There - fore will not turn a - way.

For His grace and pow'r are such None can ev - er ask too much.

Let Thy blood, for sin - ners spilt, Set my con - science free from guilt.

There Thy blood-bought right main - tain And with - out a ri - val reign.

**5 While I am a pilgrim here,
Let Thy love my spirit cheer;
As my guide, my guard, my friend,
Lead me to my journey's end.**

**6 Show me what is mine to do;
Ev'ry hour my strength renew.
Let me live a life of faith;
Let me die Thy people's death.**

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS