

*For the week of Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

### **Notes for the Week — He has chosen you, 1 Thessalonians 1**

This week, we welcome new members into our congregation. What should our thoughts and attitudes be toward these new members? Paul has some wise words for us as he begins his letter to the Thessalonians, “We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

How often do we remember to pray for those younger in the confession than we are? Even more, how often do we provide positive examples for them to imitate in the Lord? It is in the discipling community that the power of the Holy Spirit is made known. The discipling community builds one another up in love and words and works. It is clear to anyone looking on that Christ is among them. The reputation of the Thessalonians was well known far and wide because they were such a type of community.

May we look to both Paul and the Thessalonians as an example to us to follow. May we be a community that loves all those who come to it, building them up in the true confession of faith and performing acts of love for all members, especially those younger in the faith.

### **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 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: COLOSSIANS 2:10**

And you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

#### **PSALM 96:1-13 and/or the appointed daily psalms.**

##### **Prayer on the Psalm**

*Thanks to You, O Father of light, for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to establish a kingdom of grace and forgiveness among men on this earth. By Your Spirit make us new creatures in heart, mind, soul, and sentiment, and teach us to sing the new song of this new kingdom with rejoicing and gladness, through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	97, 98	101	103	105	107	108, 110	113, 114	116, 117
Evening	99, 100	102	104	106	109	111, 112	115	118

**BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

	Bible Narrative for the Week	Second Reading
Sunday	Matt. 22:15–22	
Monday	Othniel, Israel’s First Judge—Judges 3:7–11 <b>St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of Jesus &amp; Martyr;</b> Acts 15:12-22a	
Tuesday	Ehud, Israel’s Left-Handed Judge—Judges 3:12–30 (31)	
Wednesday	Deborah the Prophetess Judges Israel—Judges 4:1–24	
Thursday	The Angel of the Lord Appears to Gideon—Judges 6:1 (2–5) 6, 11–27	
Friday	The Sign of the Fleece—Judges 6:28–40	
Saturday	Rev. 14:6–7 <b>St. Simon &amp; Sat. Jude, Apostles:</b> John 15:12-21	Romans 3:19-28

**The Catechism: The Creed— The Second Article**

*And [I believe] 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.*

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*What does this mean?*

That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Second Grade+

**DEVOTION OR MEDITATION**

**DAILY PRAYER**

Select from among the following prayers as time and circumstances allow:

**Collect of the Week**

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **Daily Themes for Prayer**

- Sunday:** *For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacrament.*
- Monday:** *For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.*
- Wednesday:** *For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

### **In Our Prayers this Week**

**Our Congregation:** *Nathan & Jessica Lee, Payton, Madison; Steve Lemke; Ricky & Grace Lines; Brian & Erica Livingston, Bradley, Emily, Ethan; Renee Lloyd; Shay Lloyd*

**Baptismal Birthdays:** *Nancy Leadbetter; Margo Hughes*

**Wedding Anniversaries:** *Dave & Marty Piotrowsky*

**Members of the Congregation:** *Anita Williams*

**Friends of our Congregation:**

**Other:**

**Our Circuit:**

*St. John Lutheran Church, Aliceville; Rev. Timothy Booth*

*Trinity Lutheran Church, Burlington; Vacant*

**Our District Staff and President,** *Rev. Justin Panzer.*

*Janet Powell, Administrative Assistant*

*Jackie Schaefer, Communications Specialist*

**Our Synod and President,** *Rev. Matthew Harrison*

**Our Community:** *City of Richmond; City of Princeton; USD 288*

**Our State and Governor,** *Laura Kelly*

**Our Nation and President,** *Joseph Biden*

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER FROM THE CATECHISM**

*I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.*

—or—

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. **Amen.**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

**“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”**

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| 1 Holy God, we praise Thy name;<br>Lord of all, we bow before Thee.<br>All on earth Thy scepter claim,<br>All in heav'n above adore Thee.<br>Infinite Thy vast domain,<br>Everlasting is Thy reign. | 3 Lo, the apostles' holy train<br>Join Thy sacred name to hallow;<br>Prophets swell the glad refrain,<br>And the white-robed martyrs follow,<br>And from morn to set of sun<br>Through the Church the song goes on. |
| 2 Hark! The glad celestial hymn<br>Angel choirs above are raising;<br>Cherubim and seraphim,<br>In unceasing chorus praising,<br>Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:<br>Holy, holy, holy Lord!      | 4 Thou art King of Glory, Christ;<br>Son of God, yet born of Mary.<br>For us sinners sacrificed,<br>As to death a Tributary,<br>First to break the bars of death,<br>Thou hast opened heav'n to faith.              |

- △ 5 Holy Father, holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;  
Though in essence only one,  
Undivided God we claim Thee  
And, adoring, bend the knee  
While we own the mystery.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900, alt.  
Text: Public domain

**Looking Forward to “Reformation Day”**

**October 29, 2023**

**Readings: Revelation 14:6-7 | Romans 3:19-28 | John 8:31-36 or Matthew 11:12-19**

“Wisdom is justified by her deeds” (Matt. 11:19), and the true wisdom of God, Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, in order that we may eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and “remain in the house forever” (John 8:35). He is “a friend of tax collectors and sinners” (Matt. 11:18-19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel “to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people” (Rev. 14:6), “the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law” (Rom. 3:21), “that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (Rom. 3:26). And by the hearing of that Gospel of Christ Jesus, “whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith” (Rom. 3:25), “you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:31-32).

