



“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.” Luke 11:9-10

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Pray Early and Often

July 27, 2025

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A VERY WARM WELCOME TO ALL!

It is our joy to have guests visit our congregation. We pray that God would bless you during your visit with us. We encourage you to sign your name and address in the red fellowship book that will be passed out during the offering so that we have a record of your visit with us. May God's Word fill you with peace and joy in worship today.

YOUR GIFTS & TALENTS ARE NEEDED AT ETERNAL HOPE!

As Eternal Hope continues to grow and reach more families with the life-saving Gospel message we need all the help we can get! It is part of our core values and beliefs as Christians that each and every person is gifted by God. We invite you to share your gifts with us as we, together, share Christ's love with our world!

AS WE GATHER

In 1535, Martin Luther was asked by Peter, his barber, for instruction on prayer. Luther wrote a little book explaining how he organizes his own prayers to God. He pointed to the Lord's Prayer as well as the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed as ways to focus and form his prayers. The Bible is filled with people who prayed consistently—people like Abraham, Moses, Hannah, and David. In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches His disciples how to pray and shares two stories to emphasize the importance of bold, persistent prayer.

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GREETINGS

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

[LSB 905

INVOCATION

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psm 50:1, 3–5, 14–15; John 15:7, 16; Rom. 12:12; 1Thess. 5:17–18*

Pastor: Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

People: The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Our God comes; He does not keep silence; before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty tempest.

Pastor: Jesus says, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."

People: He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that He may judge His people.

Pastor: The apostle Paul writes, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

People: God says, "Gather to Me My faithful ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice!"

Pastor: Jesus said, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give it to you."

People: "Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

Pastor: Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: we call upon You because we are troubled by our sins—our sinful thoughts, words, and actions. We are equally troubled by those times when we have failed to act or speak up. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus, who delivered us through His perfect life, death, and resurrection so that we may glorify You with our lives.

Pastor: Our God hears our prayers for mercy and graciously forgives our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace.

People: Amen.

WORD

INTROIT

Psalms 119:145–149; antiphon: Psalm 50:15

Pastor: Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

People: With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD! I will keep Your statutes.

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

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

Pastor: My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on Your promise.

People: Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love;

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

People: 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.

Pastor: Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE "How Majestic Is Your Name" LSB 978

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The lyrics are: "O Lord, our Lord, how ma-jes-tic is Your name in all the earth. O earth. O Lord, we praise Your name. O Lord, we mag-ni-fy Your name: Prince of Peace, Might-y God, O Lord God Al-might-y. O y." The score includes a double bar line with a repeat sign, a first ending bracket, a second ending bracket, and a final ending bracket. The lyrics are aligned with the notes: "O Lord, our Lord, how ma-jes-tic is Your name in all the earth. O earth. O Lord, we praise Your name. O Lord, we mag-ni-fy Your name: Prince of Peace, Might-y God, O Lord God Al-might-y. O y."

O Lord, our Lord, how ma-jes-tic is Your name in all the earth. O earth. O Lord, we praise Your name. O Lord, we mag-ni-fy Your name: Prince of Peace, Might-y God, O Lord God Al-might-y. O y.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 18:20–33* (Abraham prays to God for mercy.)

²⁰Then the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, ²¹I 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."

²²So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord.

²³Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose 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? ²⁵Far 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?" ²⁶And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

²⁷Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose 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." ²⁹Again he spoke to him and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then 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." ³¹He 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." ³²Then 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." ³³And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 138; antiphon: v. 3

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¹I give you thanks, O Lord, with | my whole heart;*
before the gods I | sing your praise;

²I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your | faithfulness,*
for you have exalted above all things
your name | and your word.

³On the day I called, you | answered me;*
my strength of soul | you increased.

⁴All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, | O Lord,*
for they have heard the words | of your mouth,

⁵and they shall sing of the ways | of the Lord,*
for great is the glory | of the Lord.

⁶For though the Lord is high, he regards the | lowly,*
but the haughty he knows | from afar.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you pre- | serve my life;*
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand de- | livers me.

⁸The Lord will fulfill his pur- | pose for me;*
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work | of your hands.

***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.***

³On the day I called, you | answered me;*
my strength of soul | you increased.

EPISTLE *Colossians 2:6–19* (Stay rooted in Christ to be able to stand firm in your faith.)

⁶Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See 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. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having 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. ¹³And 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, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

¹⁶Therefore 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. ¹⁷These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Let 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, ¹⁹and 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 11:1-13* (Jesus teaches His disciples to pray.)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now 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." ²And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³Give us each day our daily bread,

⁴and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation.”

⁵And 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, ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; ⁷and 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?’ ⁸I 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. ⁹And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; ¹²or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³If 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!”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH *The Apostles’ Creed*

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY “Our Father, Who From Heaven Above” LSB 766; vv. 1, 6, 8-9

SERMON

“No one can believe how powerful prayer is and what it can effect, except those who have learned it by experience. Whenever I have prayed earnestly, I have been heard and have obtained more than I prayed for. God sometimes delays, but He always comes.” — Martin Luther

OFFERING

Luke 10:25b – “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” There is nothing right about this question. What shall I *do* to *inherit*? What can you do to inherit the throne of England? You can’t do anything to gain it. An inheritance comes by family ties, not deeds. Our deeds follow and result from our family ties. The Father calls us His own children. So we inherit eternal life by grace, and seek to live out our new calling as the Father’s children with our good works.

OFFERING OF PRAISE “Hear Us, Father, When We Pray” LSB 773

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, I encourage you to lift your hearts to God and pray with me as Jesus has taught us and promises to hear us.

People: Our Father in heaven,

Pastor: Heavenly Father, mercifully hear the prayers of your people on behalf of our congregation, community, nation, and world. We especially remember....

People: Holy be Your name.

Pastor: Holy Lord, we know Your name is holy. We ask that it be kept holy among us as we bear that name and live as Your people in this world.

People: Your Kingdom come.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we thank You for planting Your Kingdom among us as You nourish us with Your Word and Sacraments for the forgiveness of our sins. We eagerly anticipate the fullness of Your kingdom coming and ask that You continue to do Your good and gracious work in, through, and among us while we wait for Your return.

People: Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we know that it is Your will that all people come to the knowledge of the truth and are saved. Work Your will here on earth. Work through our governing authorities and their agents to bring Your will to all people.

People: Give us today our daily bread.

Pastor: Loving Father, we thank and praise You for providing everything we need for our bodies and lives. Prevent us from being selfish and greedy. As You generously bless us, lead us to be a blessing to others, especially those who are in need.

People: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Pastor: O Jesus, forgive and empower us to forgive others so that our relationships are ruled by Your peace. Create clean hearts within us so that we may approach You boldly, with confidence.

People: Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

Pastor: Almighty God, as we face trials and temptations, strengthen us by the power of Your Spirit so we can stand firm against the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. Watch over all we name before You this day. Deliver us from evil now and forever.

People: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” *LSB 924*

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3.

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