



# MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



## A CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 6

JUNE 14–JUNE 20, 2009

### COMMENTARY FOR THE WEEK

It's only June, but summer is definitely here. In fact this weekend's weather forecast included two days with triple-digit-highs. Indeed, these warm temperatures make us appreciate the value of a good shade tree. As we look for shade, we seek a place of refuge from the scorching heat. We hope to find much needed relief. In our Old Testament reading for this morning, from Ezekiel 17, we have a beautiful picture of the sort of protection and relief only our Lord can provide.

While the sons and daughters of Israel had followed leaders that sought to provide protection by making allegiances with foreign kings, what they had received was no protection at all. In fact, because they had doubted the Lord's protection, and sought relief elsewhere, God had brought judgment upon Israel. But thankfully, this judgment was not the last word...

Through Ezekiel, the Lord promised to provide the sort of protection that would bring relief to the world. The Lord prom-

ised to plant a young and tender sprig which would grow up to become a magnificent cedar on a high and lofty mountain. The Lord promised that the young and tender sprig would bear branches and produce so abundantly that its branches would provide shade enough to provide relief for every kind of bird under heaven. What a tree that would have to be!!

What is even more, however, is that the Lord has fulfilled His promise through the person of Jesus Christ...planted as a young child in Bethlehem. The Scriptures refer to Jesus Christ as "shoot," and "branch" and "root," for He is the promised one. It is Jesus Christ that grew up to produce fruit on a high and lofty mountain—Mt. Calvary. And because He was planted on that mountain, His death and resurrection provide protection and relief to all nations of the world. As we look for shade from the hot summer sun, let us remember the protection we have in Christ Jesus from sin, death and the devil—protection that only God can provide.

### A SAMPLE FAMILY DEVOTION:

#### • Invocation

*In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

#### • Verse of the Week

*Try to memorize by the end of the week.*

#### • Daily Bible Story

*Read together and talk about the story. Which character are you most like? Where is the Gospel?*

#### • Apostles' Creed

#### • Prayers

*Pray together the collect, and have a family member pray the daily thematic prayer and the prayers of the Church for the Week*

### Reading the Psalms:

**Perfect for personal morning devotions.**

SUNDAY	105 106
MONDAY	107 108
TUESDAY	109 110, 111
WEDNESDAY	112, 113 114
THURSDAY	115 116
FRIDAY	117, 118 120, 121
SATURDAY	119:1-24 119:25-48

### MEMORIZING THE CATECHISM: TABLE OF DUTIES

#### THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

*What is the First Commandment?*  
You shall have no other gods.

Pre+

*What does this mean?*

We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

1st +



**"You shall  
have no  
other gods  
before me."**

Exodus 20:3

## **VERSE OF THE WEEK**

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5

## **Hymn of the Week:**

“Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid”, #236

**A musician in the family can play the tune while the family sings together. Otherwise, the text is good devotional material.**

## **Next Sunday's Readings:**

**Third Sunday after Pentecost**

***Job 38:1-11***

The LORD Answers Job

***2 Corinthians 6:1-13***

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

***Mark 4:35-41***

Jesus Calms a Storm

## **BIBLE STORIES FOR THE FAMILY AND CONGREGATION: TO BE READ DURING YOUR DAILY FAMILY DEVOTIONS**

Monday	Jesus Is the True Vine (John 15:1-8)
Tuesday	Love and the Hatred of the World (John 15:9-25)
Wednesday	The Comforter in Persecution (John 15:26—16:4)
Thursday	The Work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:5-15)
Friday	Ask and You Will Receive (John 16:23b-33)
Saturday	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

## **DAILY PRAYER READINGS: PERFECT FOR PERSONAL EVENING DEVOTIONS**

Sunday	OT: Proverbs 14:1-27	NT: John 15:1-11
Monday	Proverbs 15:1-29	John 15:12-27
Tuesday	Proverbs 16:1-24	John 16:1-16
Wednesday	Proverbs 17:1-28	John 16:17-33
Thursday	Proverbs 20:5-25	John 17:1-26
Friday	Proverbs 22:1-21	John 18:1-14
Saturday	Proverbs 22:22—23:12	John 18:15-40
Sunday	Proverbs 24:1-22	John 19:1-22

## **PRAYERS**

### **Collect for the Week:**

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **Daily Themes for Prayer:**

<b>Sunday</b>	for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of the faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.
<b>Monday</b>	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.
<b>Tuesday</b>	for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.
<b>Wednesday</b>	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.
<b>Thursday</b>	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.
<b>Friday</b>	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.
<b>Saturday</b>	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 @ Mt. Calvary**

Carolyn Friedle at Wilford Hall; Rosemary Wessels at Northeast Baptist after knee replacement surgery; Mona Preuss at home after eye surgery; Nell Hohle at Health South RIOSA following knee replacement surgery; Carl Roberts at home; Ann Knuth under hospice at home; the Schielke family; Bernard ZumMallen waiting on test results.