



MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



A CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 8

JUNE 28-JULY 4, 2009

COMMENTARY FOR THE WEEK

479 years ago (1530), this past Thursday, the *Augsburg Confession* was submitted to Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, at Augsburg, Germany. Authored by Philip Melancthon, the Confession of faith was read by Dr. Beyer, and then handed to Charles V with these words: "Most gracious Emperor, this is a Confession that will even prevail against the gates of hell, with the grace and help of God." In that moment, the reformers had stood up, and confessed what they believed to be the true teaching of the church—the clear Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In our Gospel reading this morning, we hear of another woman's opportunity to confess true and saving faith in Jesus Christ. Even though Jairus had come to Jesus and asked Him to heal his dying daughter, Jesus was "sidetracked" a bit on the way. As He made His way through the crowd, a woman with a 12-year illness came to Jesus from behind, and touched His garment. Feeling His power go out from Him, He turned around and asked, "Who touched me?"

Now of course, Jesus didn't need to ask the question because He didn't know. He is all-knowing, after all. So why did He ask that healed woman such a question? Because He wanted her to confess the faith that He knew she already possessed. He wanted to give her an opportunity to stand up—and confess faith in Jesus Christ.

But there was a problem. While Jesus was hearing her confession, the daughter of Jairus had died. And yet, Jesus was telling her to stand up as well. "Talitha cumi," he said to her, and immediately the girl arose and confessed with her body that Jesus was Lord of all.

And this is what the church does. We stand up with the woman suffering from illness, with the daughter of Jairus, and with our Lutheran Reformers, and we confess the true and saving faith—The Jesus Christ alone is our Salvation!

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	135 136
MONDAY	137, 138 139
TUESDAY	140, 141 142, 143
WEDNESDAY	144 146
THURSDAY	145 148
FRIDAY	147 149, 150
SATURDAY	1, 2 3

MEMORIZING THE CATECHISM: TABLE OF DUTIES THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

What is the Third Commandment?
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Pre+

What does this mean?
We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

2nd +



"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."

Exodus 20:8

VERSE OF THE WEEK

But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have
hope: The steadfast love
of the LORD never
ceases; his mercies never
come to an end;
they are new every
morning;
great is your faithfulness.
Lamentations 3:21-23

Hymn of the Week:

**“My Soul, Now
Bless Thy Maker”,
#34**

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: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 2:1-5

And he said to me,
“Son of man, stand on
your feet, and I will
speak with you.”

2 Corinthians 12:1-10
Paul's Visions and His Thorn

Mark 6:1-13

Jesus Is Rejected at Nazareth and Sends Out His Twelve Apostles

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

Monday	An Angel Frees the Apostles from Prison (Acts 5:17-42)
Tuesday	The Choosing of the Seven (Acts 6:1-7)
Wednesday	Stephen is Accused of Blasphemy (Acts 6:8—7:16)
Thursday	Stephen Bears Witness Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 7:17-36)
Friday	The Martyrdom (Acts 7:37-60)
Saturday	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

DAILY PRAYER READINGS: PERFECT FOR PERSONAL EVENING DEVOTIONS

Sunday	OT: Joshua 3:1-17	NT: Acts 9:1-22
Monday	Joshua 4:1-24	Acts 9:23-43
Tuesday	Joshua 5:1—6:5	Acts 10:1-17
Wednesday	Joshua 6:6-27	Acts 10:18-33
Thursday	Joshua 7:1-26	Acts 10:34-48
Friday	Joshua 8:1-28	Acts 11:1-18
Saturday	Joshua 10:1-25	Acts 11:19-30
Sunday	Joshua 23:1-16	Acts 12:1-25

PRAYERS

Collect for the Week:

Heavenly Father, during His earthly ministry Your Son Jesus healed the sick and raised the dead. By the healing medicine of the Word and Sacraments pour into our hearts such love toward You that we may live eternally; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Daily Themes for Prayer:

Sunday	for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of the faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.
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 @ Mt. Calvary

Lou Feaster at home; **Richard Kaddatz** at a private care home; **Marsha Morris** at Texas Specialty and Rehab; **Ann Knuth** under hospice at home; **Bernard ZumMallen** undergoing cancer treatments; **Nell Hohle and Rosemary Wessels** undergoing rehab; **Susan Pfund** as she returns home to Michigan; **Karen Watson** at home after gall bladder surgery; **our VBS teachers and staff**; **Karl and Avis Mittwede** as they celebrate their 53rd Wedding Anniversary on June 30th.