

Holy Cross at Prayer



Pentecost Through Proper 8a
May 31, 2020 to July 4, 2020

SUNDAY (May 31, 2020)**The Visitation****Pentecost**

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink." (John 7:37)

READING

"So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it." (Numbers 11:24-25)

MEDITATION

God gives Moses a break, in only the way that God can do such things. The people are full of complaints and grumblings and Moses needs help. He simply cannot bear this burden anymore. (It seems that the Israelites, like us at times, are really good at grumbling and complaining). God directs Moses to gather seventy men and then God anoints them with the Spirit for the specific work He has in store for them. It is no different today, God hears our pleas for mercy and responds in the way that is best for us.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Let your grace be upon Rosalie (Hayman), O Lord, and teach her to hope in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people

by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

MONDAY (June 1, 2020)**Pentecost Monday**

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink." (John 7:37)

READING

"Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, "My lord Moses, stop them." But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp." (Numbers 11:26-30)

MEDITATION

So, out of the seventy men appointed to help Moses, only sixty-eight were present in the tent when God anointed them with the Spirit. The other two men were also anointed, but outside the tent, and rather than prophesying in the tent with the others, they were out in the camp prophesying. Oh, what a ruckus this caused for Joshua. Moses' words to Joshua are fulfilled in Acts 2 with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Heavenly Father, bless John (Lunsford) with faith in you and fervent love toward all those who cross his path this day. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST MONDAY

O God, who gave Your Holy Spirit to the apostles, grant us that same Spirit that we may live in faith and abide in peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

TUESDAY (June 2, 2020)**Pentecost Tuesday**

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink." (John 7:37)

READING

"When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?... –we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."" (Acts 2:1-13)

MEDITATION

The Holy Spirit pours out on God's people to establish His Church on earth. Moses foretold of this outpouring, as did Christ, and now the day is here where the Spirit descends to bring unity to all nations in the name of the crucified and risen Lord.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Lord Jesus Christ, be with Pat (Short) this week. Give her your grace and teach her to learn more of your mercy with each passing day. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST TUESDAY

Almighty and ever-living God, You fulfilled Your promise by sending the gift of the Holy Spirit to unite disciples of all nations in the cross and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ. By the preaching of the Gospel spread this gift to the ends of the earth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

WEDNESDAY (June 3, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink." (John 7:37)

READING

"But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: "'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'" (Acts 2:14-21)

MEDITATION

Christ is the fulfillment of all Scriptures. He is the fulfillment of all prophecies and promises. He is our salvation. The Holy Spirit comes to testify to this reality and establish the Church on earth.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Show your grace to Kirtus (Creiglow) this day, as he goes about the callings you have given to him. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

LORD'S PRAYER

THURSDAY (June 4, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink." (John 7:37)

READING

"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified." (John 7:37-39)

MEDITATION

Jesus speaks about the Holy Spirit who is to be given. The same Spirit who hovers over the face of the waters in creation. The same Spirit who descends like a dove upon Jesus in the baptismal waters of the Jordan river. This same Spirit will be given after Jesus is crowned with glory as he hangs bloodied, sweat-drenched on the cross with water and blood running from His pierced side. This same Spirit now descends upon us in the waters of Holy Baptism, giving us Jesus: forgiveness of sins, eternal life and rescue from our enemies. This same Spirit helps us see the Father through Jesus.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Show your grace to Rick (Fielitz) this day, as he goes about the callings you have given to him. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

FRIDAY (June 5, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink." (John 7:37)

READING

"To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me. Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long. Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!" (Psalms 25:1-7)

MEDITATION

The Psalmist does a strange thing here. He calls upon God to remember who He is. He calls upon the God of mercy, of steadfast love, of forgiveness and truth, knowing that God will do what He promises to do. He will save us from our sins and deliver us from evil.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Father, we lift up Bill (Hayman) before you this day, asking that You would give him your mercy all the days of his life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

SATURDAY (June 6, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

“On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.” (John 7:37)

READING

“Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. For your name’s sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Who is the man who fears the LORD? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose. His soul shall abide in well-being, and his offspring shall inherit the land. The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant. My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.” (Psalms 25:8-15)

MEDITATION

The ways of the LORD are true and trustworthy, leading to life and peace. The way we often choose is anything but trustworthy, often leading to chaos. God’s way is Truth, Mercy and Love. God’s way is His nature. This reality never changes. This is our security. So let us look with the eyes of faith to the LORD.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Al (Arrington). Bless him now with the forgiveness of sins and a firm trust in you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD’S PRAYER

SUNDAY (June 7, 2020)**Holy Trinity**

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"...behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."" (Matthew 28:20b)

READING

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day." (Genesis 1:1-8)

MEDITATION

From the beginning to the end, Jesus Christ is and had always been. St. John begins,

"In the beginning was the Word..."

And St. Matthew ends, "...behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." There was never, and never will be a time when Jesus Christ did not exist.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Let your grace be upon Charlie (Nunnink), O Lord, and teach him to hope in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith

and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

MONDAY (June 8, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"...behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."" (Matthew 28:20b)

READING

"And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day." (Genesis 1:9-13)

MEDITATION

"And God said,"

 "And it was so."

 "And God saw that it was good."

These words echo through the creation narrative, showing us the power of God's word. Some call this performative speech, meaning, God's Word does what it says. When God speaks, it happens. And so it is true for us today. When God speaks His words of forgiveness through the voice of our pastor, forgiveness happens. And it is so, and it is good.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Heavenly Father, bless Jordan (Yates) with faith in you and fervent love toward all those who cross her path this day. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

TUESDAY (June 9, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"...behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."" (Matthew 28:20b)

READING

"And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day." (Genesis 1:14-23)

MEDITATION

God the Creator sets forth His creation in a beautiful, orderly pattern. Day and night, light and dark, seasons of rhythms are set by God to guide us in ordinary time and in sacred time. He continues to bring order and rhythm to our lives, each and everyday.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Lord Jesus Christ, be with Samantha (Creiglow) this week. Give her

your grace and teach her to learn more of your mercy with each passing day. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

WEDNESDAY (June 10, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"...behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."" (Matthew 28:20b)

READING

"And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." (Genesis 1:24-27)

MEDITATION

God creates man and woman in His own image. Wait, did the Genesis really say that? God created us in His own image? That is really remarkable. We are created, not engineered. Created and loved beyond all comprehension. Loved and known before the foundations of the world were laid. Loved, because we were created in the image of Love himself.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Be with Kristina (Lunsford) this day, O Lord, and show her your great love throughout all the days of her life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true

faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

THURSDAY (June 11, 2020)**St. Barnabas, Apostle**

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"...behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."" (Matthew 28:20b)

READING

"But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: ... "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence."" (Acts 2:14a, 22-28)

MEDITATION

Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is our security and our hope. Though death was necessary—it was Christ's seat of glory, death does not hold him. God loosened the death grip on Christ, raising him from the dead in order that we too might have new life, free from all of death's entanglements.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Show your grace to Pauline (Lenser) this day, as she goes about the callings you have given to her. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF ST. BARNABAS, APOSTLE

Almighty God, Your faithful servant Barnabas sought not his own renown but gave generously of his life and substance for the encouragement of the apostles and their ministry. Grant that we may follow his example in lives given to charity and the proclamation of the Gospel; through Your Son,

Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

FRIDAY (June 12, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"...behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20b)

READING

"Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool." Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." (Acts 2:29-36)

MEDITATION

Jesus promised His disciples the outpouring of the Holy Spirit after His glorification which was His death on the cross. True to His promise, the Holy Spirit is poured out on those believers who will form the early Christian Church. Likewise, the Holy Spirit is poured out on us in the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Here we are given the gift of faith and the gifts of mercy which is Christ Himself.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Father, we lift up Jack (Poshepney) before you this day, asking that You would give him your mercy all the days of his life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

SATURDAY (June 13, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"...behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."" (Matthew 28:20b)

READING

"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."" (Matthew 28:16–20)

MEDITATION

Jesus, the creator, comes to redeem His creation. Baptism is the Church's outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It is where the One who loves us and created us marks us as His own. As the triune name is traced upon our foreheads and chest, we bear the name of Christ. In fact, we now bear, in our bodies, Christ's Body, and thus become incorporated into the Body of Christ, His Church.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Richard (Peperkorn). Bless him now with the forgiveness of sins and a firm trust in you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

SUNDAY (JUNE 14, 2020)
The Second Sunday after Pentecost

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

“And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction.” (Matthew 9:35)

READING

“Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with thanksgiving.” (Psalm 100:1-2)

MEDITATION

Thanksgiving , praise and serving is a response to the good and gracious gifts God has bestowed upon us. Even His creation makes a joyful noise to the Lord. God is the giver and we simply receive what He gives us, and respond in joyful thanksgiving and praise. Jesus is the ultimate giver and He, Himself is the gift, bringing us forgiveness of sins, eternal life and salvation.

SILENCE

PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Let your grace be upon Gerry (Bauer), O Lord, and teach her to hope in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD’S PRAYER

MONDAY (June 15, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction." (Matthew 9:35)

READING

"Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and he sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!" (Psalm 100:3-4)

MEDITATION

God is King and Lord. He is our creator and our protector. He knows us intimately and loves us deeply, and in fact, He called us by name, even before we were born. God has made each one of us in His image. He tenderly cares for us, as a shepherd cares for his sheep. For this, we give Him thanks and praise.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Heavenly Father, bless Tom (Dennis) with faith in you and fervent love toward all those who cross his path this day. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

TUESDAY (June 16, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction." (Matthew 9:35)

READING

"For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations." (Psalm 100:5)

MEDITATION

There is a lot of richness packed into this simple sentence: "For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations." God's essence does not change. He is goodness. He is steadfast love, which has not end. He promises to be faithful to the ends of the earth and the end of time. We don't have to guess who God is—He tells us and shows us each and everyday.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Lord Jesus Christ, be with Carol (Kell) this week. Give her your grace and teach her to learn more of your mercy with each passing day. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

WEDNESDAY (June 17, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

“And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction.” (Matthew 9:35)

READING

“For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5: 6-8)

MEDITATION

Christ died for all. He died for the weak (that’s us). He died for the ungodly.(That’s us before our baptism). He died for sinners (that’s us too!). There is nothing we do to deserve God’s favor. Out of fatherly divine goodness and mercy, God sends His only Son to die that we might have life. That is good news, indeed!

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Be with Rosalyn (Lee) this day, O Lord, and show her your great love throughout all the days of her life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD’S PRAYER

THURSDAY (June 18, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction." (Matthew 9:35)

READING

"Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation." (Romans 5:9-11)

MEDITATION

The shedding of Christ's blood, cleanses us from all sins. His death brings life. On the cross, Christ takes on the full force of the Father's wrath and anger against sin—our sin, and the sin of the whole world. Because of Jesus' submission on the cross, we are now reconciled to God. We have nothing to fear, for Jesus has given us new life, forgiveness of sins and rescue from our enemies, including our own sinful nature.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Show your grace to Jeanne (Schubring) this day, as she goes about the callings you have given to her. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

FRIDAY (June 19, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

“And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction.” (Matthew 9:35)

READING

“Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.” (Romans 5:12-15)

MEDITATION

With the fall into sin, Adam brought us all into sin. The whole of creation was infected with the virus of sin, and we were stuck, waiting for the cure. Jesus comes to bring us healing and life by living the perfect life we could not. And then He takes all of our sin into Himself and bears it, even to the point of death. His death becomes our freedom. Christ is the antidote to sin and death. He is our Savior.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Father, we lift up Julie (Watson) before you this day, asking that You would give her your mercy all the days of her life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

SATURDAY (June 20, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction." (Matthew 9:35)

READING

"And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction. When he saw the crowds he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'" Matthew 9:35-38)

MEDITATION

Jesus is compassion. He is mercy. He is moved not only to preach, teach and proclaim the good news, He is also moved to heal our diseases and afflictions. Yes, suffering and sickness still exist for we live in this world tainted by sin. But Jesus comes as our Good Shepherd, to gently lead us home to Himself. Our ultimate healing is our death which leads to life eternal.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Desmond (Lee). Bless him now with the forgiveness of sins and a firm trust in you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

SUNDAY (June 21, 2020)
Third Sunday after Pentecost

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

“Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.” (Jeremiah 20:13)

READING

“O LORD, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, “Violence and destruction!” For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, “I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,” there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.” (Jeremiah 20:7-9)

MEDITATION

As a prophet, Jeremiah is called to be the voice of God. His vocation is to speak God’s Truth, and this Truth is often painful. Speaking the Truth can often bring derision and mocking, to the point of wanting to run and hide. And yet, Jeremiah is called to speak the Truth, and his heart burns and his bones become weary if he does not speak what God has called him to speak. We, too, are called to speak the Truth in love to those who are lost and searching. We speak of who we know—Christ, the merciful One.

SILENCE

PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Let your grace be upon Marianna (North), O Lord, and teach her to hope in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD’S PRAYER

MONDAY (June 22, 2019)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers." (Jeremiah 20:13)

READING

"For I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! "Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" say all my close friends, watching for my fall. "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him." But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers." (Jeremiah 20:10-13)

MEDITATION

No matter what or who assails us. No matter how downtrodden and despairing we become, the LORD is with us. The LORD is our strength and our song. He is the One in whom we trust. He is the steadfast One, the one who delivers us and sustains us. This is His promise, and in that promise we find our peace.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Heavenly Father, bless Aimee (Will) with faith in you and fervent love toward all those who cross her path this day. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

TUESDAY (June 23, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

“Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.” (Jeremiah 20:13)

READING

“Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.” (Romans 6:12-14)

MEDITATION

The key word here is grace (gift). In baptism, Christ clothes us, or gifts us, with His righteousness—that is to say, He makes us right before God. In baptism we get Christ—all of Him. We get the fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. As baptized believers, God calls us to live out who we are. Yes, the struggle can be fierce, for our desire is often to live as children of the darkness, hiding who we truly are (children of the Light), under our selfish ways. But we are never alone. Christ, the One who shines His Light into the darkness, sustains us by His grace.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Lord Jesus Christ, be with Jayson (Macke) this week. Give him your grace and teach him to learn more of your mercy with each passing day. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD’S PRAYER

WEDNESDAY (June 24, 2020)**The Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers." (Jeremiah 20:13)

READING

"What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification." (Romans 6:14-19)

MEDITATION

The word obedience comes from the Latin word "oboedire", from *ob*- 'in the direction of' + *audire* 'hear.' So, obedience is not just a contest of the will—it is not simply summoning up enough willpower to resist sin. Obedience means, first of all, *to hear*. To listen to the voice of the One who set us free from sin by His death on the cross.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Be with George (Cirelli) this day, O Lord, and show him your great love throughout all the days of his life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Almighty God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, You once proclaimed salvation. Now grant that we may know this salvation and serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

THURSDAY (June 25, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers." (Jeremiah 20:13)

READING

"For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:20-23)

MEDITATION

The free gift of eternal life begins in the mysterious waters of baptism. In baptism we enter into a new reality—a life-changing reality where Christ's death on the cross brings life. A life-changing reality where we become slaves, in order to be set free. A life-changing reality and pilgrimage that begins at the font, continues to the Table and ultimately brings us face to face with Christ our Lord.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Show your grace to Lee (Weise) this day, as he goes about the callings you have given to him. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

FRIDAY (June 26, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers." (Jeremiah 20:13)

READING

"These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "...Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household." (Matthew 10:5, 21-25)

MEDITATION

Jesus sends out the twelve apostles, preparing them for rejection and persecution. This rejection and persecution is not an "if", but a "when". As Jesus Himself was ridiculed, hated and persecuted, so it will also be for those who follow him . Not a great motivational speech to be sure! And yet, the Church today is called to speak the Truth in a world hostile to Christ.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Father, we lift up Olivia (Erickson) before you this day, asking that You would give her your mercy all the days of her life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

SATURDAY (June 27, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers." (Jeremiah 20:13)

READING

""So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 10:26-33)

MEDITATION

"Fear not," says the angel to Mary as she is told she will bear the Christ in her womb. "Fear not," says the angel to the shepherds, "for behold, I bring you good news of great joy..." "Fear not," says Jesus to His disciples as He sends them out, assuring them of their worth before the Father. Fear not. Christ has claimed us. We are His.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Rick (Merkh) Bless him now with the forgiveness of sins and a firm trust in you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

SUNDAY (June 28, 2020)
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:39)

READING

"Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."" (Matthew 16:13-19)

MEDITATION

Peter, bold and impetuous, confesses Jesus as Christ and Lord. Later, this boldness would slide into cowardice and his impetuosity would become a source of denying these words he has just spoken—not once but three times! And still, the Church's foundation is built upon the rock of Peter's confession, revealed to Peter by the Father.

SILENCE

PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Let your grace be upon Ben (Nichols), O Lord, and teach him to hope in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

MONDAY (June 29, 2020)**St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles**

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:39)

READING

"Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."" (Jeremiah 28:5-9)

MEDITATION

The people don't know it, but Hananiah is lying. He is considered a false prophet—one who offers slick promises, but is unable to deliver what he says for he speaks not from God, but from darkness. These false voices are seductive, leading us to want what sounds good and pleasing to our ears, except they are the voices of death. The Voice of life is Christ. He alone is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Heavenly Father, bless John (Martin) with faith in you and fervent love toward all those who cross his path this day. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, APOSTLES

Merciful and eternal God, Your holy apostles Peter and Paul received grace and strength to lay down their lives for the sake of Your Son. Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit that we may confess Your truth and at all times be ready to lay down our lives for Him who laid down His life for us, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

TUESDAY (June 30, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:39)

READING

"Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code." (Romans 7:1-6)

MEDITATION

The law convicts and kills. It shows us our sin and our need for Christ. The way of life and freedom is in Christ alone. While we still sin daily, daily we are forgiven and renewed.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Lord Jesus Christ, be with Chuck (Parker) this week. Give him your grace and teach him to learn more of your mercy with each passing day.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

WEDNESDAY (July 1, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:39)

READING

"What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good." (Romans 7:7-12)

MEDITATION

God's law is good and holy. It serves to show us our sin. But, the law does not produce life, in fact it brings death. In order to have new life in Christ, we die to sin—not that this is something we do. Oh, quite the contrary. We die to sin in our baptism where the old Adam is drowned. We die to sin each day as we confess our sins, (and drown that old Adam again and again), emerging forgiven.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Be with Lucy (Nunnink) this day, O Lord, and show her your great love throughout all the days of her life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

THURSDAY (July 2, 2019)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:39)

READING

"Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure." (Romans 7:12-13)

MEDITATION

There is no excuse for sin. And yet, we are sinful and unclean, to the point of death. Looking at our sins is not fun. Sin is sin. It brings destruction and death. God's law is good and holy, given to us in love. God's law serves to show us our sins—no matter how trivial they may seem,—so that we might repent and receive the gift of forgiveness, life and peace. Forgiven, we stand before God needing no excuse.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Show your grace to Logan (Brauer) this day, as he goes about the callings you have given to him. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

FRIDAY (July 3, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:39)

READING

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:34-39)

MEDITATION

Christ demands more than a comfortable Christianity. In fact, to be a follower of Christ is probably going to be highly unpopular. To be a follower of Christ may mean losing friends. To be a follower of Christ may mean that family members turn against you and even shun you. To be a follower of Christ means giving up one's self—one's very life and all that goes with it. Christ demands are high. He will settle for nothing less than one's life—one's body and soul. And in Christ we have true life.

SILENCE

PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Father, we lift up Dianne (Herfindahl) before you this day, asking that You would give her your mercy all the days of her life. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

SATURDAY (July 4, 2020)

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

GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:39)

READING

""Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."" (Matthew 10:40-42)

MEDITATION

Jesus sends out the twelve apostles, girding them up for the sufferings and rejections they will encounter for His sake. Sufferings and persecutions which will intensify after His death and resurrection. As they speak in His name, it is as if they speak with His voice. The same is true of our pastors today. They are the voice of Christ, proclaiming the truth of His suffering, death, resurrection and ascension. Words that bring life to us week in and week out.

SILENCE**PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Teresa (Pabst). Bless her now with the forgiveness of sins and a firm trust in you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymn of the Season

503 O Day Full of Grace

- 1 O day full of grace that now we see
Appearing on earth's horizon,
Bring light from our God that we may be
Replete in His joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
Your name on our hearts emblazon.
- 2 O day full of grace, O blessed time,
Our Lord on the earth arriving;
Then came to the world that light sublime,
Great joy for us all retrieving;
For Jesus all mortals did embrace,
All darkness and shame removing.
- 3 For Christ bore our sins, and not His own,
When He on the cross was hanging;
And then He arose and moved the stone
That we, unto Him belonging,
Might join with angelic hosts to raise
Our voices in endless singing.
- 4 God came to us then at Pentecost,
His Spirit new life revealing,
That we might no more from Him be lost,
All darkness for us dispelling.
His flame will the mark of sin efface
And bring to us all His healing.
- 5 When we on that final journey go
That Christ is for us preparing,
We'll gather in song, our hearts aglow,
All joy of the heavens sharing,
And walk in the light of God's own place,
With angels His name adoring.

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