

# Holy Cross at Prayer



Pentecost 11 to Pentecost 17, Series C  
August 21 to October 8, 2022

### **Prayer during a pastoral vacancy**

Lord God, you instructed and led the first apostles to ordain and place those whom Christ calls for the proclamation of the Gospel and the dispensing of the gifts earned in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus for the world. Bestow on Holy Cross congregation and the call committee, the guidance of Your Holy Spirit that we may extend a call according to your will. In Your mercy and in your providential time, grant a suitable pastor for your church in this place. This we humbly ask through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God now and forever, Amen

## **SUNDAY (August 21, 2022)**

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

### **GOSPEL SENTENCE**

""For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain." (Isaiah 66:22)

### **READING**

""For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD." (Isaiah 66:18-21)

### **MEDITATION**

Isaiah speaks of God's final day of judgement. On this day God's glory will be declared for all to behold. This is a day of great joy for all who have been redeemed in Christ. We will gather from the ends of the earth to live with God in all eternity.

### **SILENCE**

### **PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Let your grace be upon Donna (Menche), O Lord, and give her 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 Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**MONDAY (August 22, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

""For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain." (Isaiah 66:22)

**READING**

""For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD." (Isaiah 66:22-23)

**MEDITATION**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and it was good. In fact, it was perfect. Sin destroyed this perfection, leading to death, decay, sickness and corruption. But God did not give up. His plan was to restore order, and restore His creation. Jesus is the new creation. His death on the cross completed this new creation. We live in the new creation—not perfectly, but in the tension of the "now and not yet".

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Heavenly Father, bless Lee (Wiese) 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)**

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

## TUESDAY (August 23, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain.” (Isaiah 66:22)

### READING

“In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?” (Hebrews 12:4-9)

### MEDITATION

I don't know about you, but I much prefer words like “mercy, grace, love” to those of “discipline, obedience, judgement”. But much like a parent who loves his child and wants the best for him, God disciplines the ones He loves. God helps us along the way as we encounter those things that might drive us away from Him and His love. His discipline serves to strengthen us and preserve us from the evil one.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

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

### PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### LORD'S PRAYER

**WEDNESDAY (August 24, 2022)**

St. Bartholomew, Apostle

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

""For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain." (Isaiah 66:22)

**READING**

"Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears." (Hebrews 12:12-17)

**MEDITATION**

God has set us apart. In other words, He has made us holy in the waters of our baptism. It is here that He places His name upon us and marks us as His own. Our identity then, is Christ. Thus, He calls us to live lives that reflect this identity, seeking peace and restoration with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

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

**PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE**

Almighty God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, chose Bartholomew to be an apostle to preach the blessed Gospel. Grant that Your Church may love what he believed and preach what he taught; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

## THURSDAY (And 25, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

""For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain." (Isaiah 66:22)

### READING

"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel." (Hebrews 12:21-24)

### MEDITATION

Mount Zion. The heavenly Jerusalem. The new heavens and the new earth. These are all words to describe that heavenly place where we will all gather one day. Until that day, we get a glimpse of heaven each time we gather together for Holy Communion "with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven".

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Show your grace to Bonnie (Ladhe) 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)

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### LORD'S PRAYER

**FRIDAY (August 26, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain.” (Isaiah 66:22)

**READING**

“He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’” (Luke 13:21-25)

**MEDITATION**

“I do not know where you come from” would be the most frightening words a person could hear from Christ. These words seem harsh and cruel, but Jesus tells those who are following Him that He is the narrow door. He is the way. Only through Him do we have eternal life and hope.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

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

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)**

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD’S PRAYER**

## SATURDAY (August 27, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

""For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain." (Isaiah 66:22)

### READING

"But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."" (Luke 13:26-30)

### MEDITATION

Jesus is telling us to be prepared. At the end of the day there is only two ways to go—with Christ in heaven or separated from Him in hell. There is no in between place. And the most unlikely people will be with Him—the last...the broken, the outcast, the lame, the marginalized...not because of any special merit, but because they believed His Words as True.

### 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 Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### LORD'S PRAYER

**SUNDAY (August 28, 2022)**

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 14:10-11)

**READING**

"It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness." (Proverbs 25:2-5)

**MEDITATION**

What's so glorious about hiding things? Isn't it more fun and exciting to find things out? The reason that God's glory is in hiding things is because God loves to hide you in Him. He loves to hide, to cover up your sins with His mercy and love. He loves to keep you in the palm of His hand and to not let anything or anyone to harm you. That is God's glory.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Let your grace be upon Gary (Yee), O Lord, and give him 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 (FROM SUNDAY)**

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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**

**MONDAY (August 29, 2022)**

The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."" (Luke 14:10-11)

**READING**

"Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end." (Proverbs 25:6-10)

**MEDITATION**

What Proverbs is teaching us here is not to be quick to judgment. We are all broken sinners. We all make mistakes and suffer great need. When your neighbor hurts you or sins against you, don't advertise it to the world. Go to them directly and be reconciled with them. This is what God Himself does in covering up your sins.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

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

**PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF THE MARTYRDOM OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

Almighty God, You gave Your servant John the Baptist to be the forerunner of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in both his preaching of repentance and his innocent death. Grant that we, who have died and risen with Christ in Holy Baptism, may daily repent of our sins, patiently suffer for the sake of the truth, and fearlessly bear witness to His victory over death; 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**

**TUESDAY (August 30, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."" (Luke 14:10-11)

**READING**

"Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" (Hebrews 13:1-6)

**MEDITATION**

Philadelphia, the city of brotherly love. This love means hospitality, visiting those in prison or need, and it means loving the closest neighbors of all, your own family. It also means love of your brother or sister, and means not loving your possessions. God will never leave you nor forsake you. You do not need "them" (those possessions), whatever they might be. He will always provide.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

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

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)**

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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 (August 31, 2022)**

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

### **GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."" (Luke 14:10-11)

### **READING**

"Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp." (Hebrews 13:7-11)

### **MEDITATION**

Faithful teaching from God's Word flows from Jesus Christ Himself. That is what it means to remember your leaders. There are always "new" teachings, fads that come and go. But the grace of God is the only true strength that you need. Live in His grace.

### **SILENCE**

### **PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

Be with Anna (Hammond) 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)**

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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**

**THURSDAY (September 1, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."" (Luke 14:10-11)

**READING**

"So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you." (Hebrews 13:12-17)

**MEDITATION**

Our praise to God always goes through Christ and His sacrifice on the cross. He is the one who makes us holy, and because of Him, we are now worthy to enter into God's presence in prayer and thanksgiving. What a gift!

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

Show your grace to Michelle (Hanna) 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)**

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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**

## FRIDAY (September 2, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."" (Luke 14:10-11)

### READING

"One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" And they could not reply to these things." (Luke 14:1-6)

### MEDITATION

The Sabbath was the seventh day, Saturday, in the Old Testament. On the Sabbath no one was allowed to do any work. It was the day to remember all of the work of God done for them. It is still so for us. Even though we don't keep the Sabbath like they did, our Sabbath rest is Jesus Christ, our Lord. We rest in Him and His work on the cross.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF

Father, we lift up Tawny (Cole) 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 Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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

**SATURDAY (September 3, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."" (Luke 14:10-11)

**READING**

"Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 14:7-11)

**MEDITATION**

The character of God is that He is completely selfless. He looks to you and what you need before anything else. God is love. In the same way, God calls us in our Baptism to live this same life of love. The life of service to others is a life lived in God.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon DeAnna (Ellis). 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)**

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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**

## **SUNDAY (September 4, 2022)**

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

### **GOSPEL SENTENCE**

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.” (Philemon 1:25)

### **READING**

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.” (Deuteronomy 30:15-20)

### **MEDITATION**

Obey is a hard word for us. For our ears, it is a Law word. But the root of the word obey is “listen”. Listening to His voice, and hearing His Word, brings life.

### **SILENCE**

### **PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

Let your grace be upon Celeste (Howe) O Lord, and give her 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 (FROM SUNDAY)**

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **LORD’S PRAYER**

**MONDAY (September 5, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." (Philemon 1:25)

**READING**

"Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you." (Philemon 1:1-7)

**MEDITATION**

God's love for us, enables us to love one another. This mutual faith and love provides not only a witness to those who do not yet believe, but it also gives much joy and comfort to our fellow believers.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR STAFF**

Heavenly Father, bless Bridget (Hill) 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 merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

## TUESDAY (September 6, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." (Philemon 1:25)

### READING

"Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord." (Philemon 1:8-16)

### MEDITATION

The name Onesimus means "useful". Paul is clever with his words here, and kindly asks Onesimus' slave owner, Philemon, to have mercy on Onesimus so that he might be useful for the kingdom of God.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR STAFF

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

### PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### LORD'S PRAYER

**WEDNESDAY (September 7, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." (Philemon 1:25)

**READING**

"So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say." (Philemon 1:17-21)

**MEDITATION**

God's grace and mercy extend to us even though we do not deserve it. Once slaves to sin and death, Christ takes that slavery upon Himself, giving us new life and freedom. This freedom leads to obedience.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

Be with Adrienne (Fowler) 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)**

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

## THURSDAY (September 8, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." (Philemon 1:25)

### READING

"Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'" (Luke 14:25-30)

### MEDITATION

Christ's words seem harsh and almost too much to bear...hate my own family? What He is really says here is that our true family is first the family of God. The cross He asks us to bear is rejection and persecution for the sake of the Gospel.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF

Show your grace to Jules (Alsante-Birtwell) 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)

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### LORD'S PRAYER

**FRIDAY (September 9, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." (Philemon 1:25)

**READING**

"Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple." (Luke 14:31-33)

**MEDITATION**

Our enemies in this world are fierce and can easily overwhelm us. Persecution and rejection are part of the Christian life. (How's that for a recruitment strategy?) However, Christ is the victor in our battles. He is the foundation of our faith, and will sustain us.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR STAFF**

Father, we lift up Emily (Erwin) 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 merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

## SATURDAY (September 10, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." (Philemon 1:25)

### READING

""Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."" (Luke 14:34-35)

### MEDITATION

In today's world of convenience foods and refrigeration, it is hard for us to understand the importance of salt. In Jesus' day, salt was a means of preserving food. Salt sustained life. Christ calls us to be "salt in the world"—in other words, we bring Christ and His saving presence to those in need.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Sarah (Phipps). 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)

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### LORD'S PRAYER

**SUNDAY (September 11, 2022)**

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."" (Luke 15:1-2)

**READING**

""For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country." (Ezekiel 34:11-13)

**MEDITATION**

God promises to care for His people. He is the one who seeks us out. He comes to us in Word and Meal, Water and Absolution, and He gathers us from all the corners of the world. Wherever you are, God will seek you out in His love.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

Let your grace be upon Dulci (Dueschel-Deushev), O Lord, and give her 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 (FROM SUNDAY)**

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**MONDAY (September 12, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."" (Luke 15:1-2)

**READING**

"I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice." (Ezekiel 34:13-16)

**MEDITATION**

God doesn't just want sheep that are perfect. He doesn't seek after the ones who have everything together. The lost, the strayed, the injured and the weak, these are the ones He calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies. He calls out to you in peace, and feeds you Himself.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

Heavenly Father, bless Daisy (Davis) 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)**

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**TUESDAY (September 13, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."" (Luke 15:1-2)

**READING**

""Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken." (Ezekiel 34:19-24)

**MEDITATION**

Jesus is the Son of David. He is the one who shepherds us, and rescues us from all the perils of body and soul. What an amazing gift, to have our own brother rule over us as the shepherd king of Israel!

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER OR ACADEMY STAFF**

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

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)**

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**WEDNESDAY (September 14, 2022)**

## Holy Cross Day

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."" (Luke 15:1-2)

**READING**

"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance." (Luke 15:1-7)

**MEDITATION**

You have to admit that this shepherd seems a little crazy. Who risks ninety-nine sheep for the sake of one? That is terrible business practice, but great theology. God seeks you out when you are lost. It doesn't make sense, but it sure is true. Thank God for that!

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Be with Michael (Prowatzke) 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 HOLY CROSS DAY**

Merciful God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, was lifted high upon the cross that He might bear the sins of the world and draw all people to Himself. Grant that we who glory in His death for our redemption may faithfully heed His call to bear the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**THURSDAY (September 15, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."" (Luke 15:1-2)

**READING**

""Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."" (Luke 15:8-10)

**MEDITATION**

If the shepherd was crazy, this must be the story of a housewife who has lost her marbles, or coins in this case. She lost one coin and when she finds it, she throws a party that probably cost more than the coin! That is the picture of God's love. It doesn't make sense, but it is oh so wonderfully true!

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Show your grace to Kelsey (Lunsford) 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)**

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

## FRIDAY (September 16, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."" (Luke 15:1-2)

### READING

"I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." (1 Timothy 1:12-15)

### MEDITATION

Don't ever think that God can't use someone like you. Paul denied Jesus, persecuted the church and had disciples killed. Yet God used him to bring many to Christ. If God can use someone like Paul, He can use sinners like you and me for great things.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Father, we lift up Jacob (Wallace) 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)

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### LORD'S PRAYER

**SATURDAY (September 17, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."" (Luke 15:1-2)

**READING**

"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen." (1 Timothy 1:15-17)

**MEDITATION**

Chief of sinners though I be,  
 Jesus shed his blood for me,  
 Died that I might live on high,  
 Lives that I might never die.  
 As the branch is to the vine,  
 I am his, and he is mine. (LSB 611)

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Olivia (Erickson)  
 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)**

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**SUNDAY (September 18, 2022)**

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."" (Luke 16:12-13)

**READING**

"Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, saying, "When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?" The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their deeds." (Amos 8:4-7)

**MEDITATION**

God cares for the needy, and does not tolerate deception for His people. God deals in truth and justice, and does not forget. What He does instead is forgive, which is far greater.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Let your grace be upon Logan (Brauer), O Lord, and give him 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 Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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 (September 19, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.'" (Luke 16:12-13)

**READING**

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth." (1Timothy 2:1-7)

**MEDITATION**

God calls upon us to pray for all people, good and evil, near and far. He calls upon us to do this because He wants everyone to be saved. Everyone. And this salvation comes through Jesus Christ alone. Jesus alone is the way, the truth and the life.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Heavenly Father, bless Robert (Brahmst) 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)**

O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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 (September 20, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

“No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” (Luke 16:12-13)

### READING

“I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.” (1 Timothy 2:7-15)

### MEDITATION

Vocation is the teaching that God calls us to different places and things and duties. Men and women are equal in God’s eyes, but are not the same. When we come to understand this, it helps us to put all of these things in context. We cannot take God’s saying “no” to some things without seeing His “yes” to others. They must go together.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

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

### PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)

O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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 (September 21, 2022)**

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."" (Luke 16:12-13)

**READING**

"He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.'" (Luke 16:1-4)

**MEDITATION**

In this first part of the parable, we hear about a manager (house steward) who was wasting the possessions of his master. The rich man is taking away his position. He now is faced with a decision: what shall I do to live? Where is the best source of hope for him?

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

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

**PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST**

O Son of God, our blessed Savior Jesus Christ, You called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist. Through his faithful and inspired witness, grant that we also may follow You, leaving behind all covetous desires and love of riches; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

## THURSDAY (September 22, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."" (Luke 16:12-13)

### READING

"So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings." (Luke 16:5-9)

### MEDITATION

The manager was dishonest, but shrewd. He recognized that the best, most reliable place to put his trust was in the mercy of the rich man. So he lied, knowing that the rich man would be merciful toward him and would protect the manager's reputation (and his own), rather than turn him in as a thief. So the question is, where do you place your trust?

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Show your grace to John-Paul (Meyer) 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 Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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 (September 23, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." (Luke 16:12-13)

**READING**

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God." (Luke 16:10-15)

**MEDITATION**

It is easy for possessions to define us and enslave us. We buy them but all too often, they own us. What Jesus holds up before us today is that serving God frees you from being enslaved to all of the stuff of your lives. His yoke is easy and His burden is light. The same is not true of the things of this world.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Father, we lift up Craig (Erickson) 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 Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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 (September 24, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."" (Luke 16:12-13)

### READING

"The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens! Who is like the LORD our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the LORD!" (Psalms 113:4-9)

### MEDITATION

God promises to care for us. It is that simple. God raises us up from the muck and mire of this world. It is far better to place your trust in Him than in princes or rulers. He will never disappoint.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

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

### PRAYER OF THE DAY (FROM HYMN 797)

Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal;  
 Earth-born they are and soon decay.  
 Vain are their counsels at life's last portal,  
 When the dark grave doth claim its prey.  
 Since mortals can no help afford,  
 Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.  
 Alleluia, alleluia!

### LORD'S PRAYER

**SUNDAY (September 25, 2022)**

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." (Psalm 146:7b-8)

**READING**

"Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and stretch themselves out on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the midst of the stall, who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David invent for themselves instruments of music, who drink wine in bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile, and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away." (Amos 6:4-8)

**MEDITATION**

We often deceive ourselves with thinking that living the "good life of prosperity" indicates that we are right with God. While God does not condemn wealth, He does condemn the misuse of it. God's richest blessing to us is the gift of His only Son who humbled himself to become like us in flesh and blood, and yet without sin. God dresses Himself in humility and compassion so that we might become wealthy in forgiveness.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Let your grace be upon David (Oschner) O Lord, and give him 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, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; 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 (September 26, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." (Psalm 146:7b-8)

### READING

"There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores." (Luke 16:19-21 eSV)

### MEDITATION

The rich man appears to have everything. He has power and possessions—beautiful clothes, fine wine and delicious foods. He feasts each day and makes merry. And yet he is not named. The poor man lying outside the rich man's gate has absolutely nothing of his own except the sores on his body. And yet, he does have a name, Lazarus, which means, "one whom God helps". He must rely on the help and generosity of others to sustain his daily life. But God is his true life.

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Heavenly Father, bless Jeffrey (Lange) 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)

O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; 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 (September 26, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." (Psalm 146:7b-8)

**READING**

"The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame". But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'" (Luke 16:22-26)

**MEDITATION**

Both the rich man and Lazarus die, but end up in different places. The self-indulgent rich man is separated from God forever and calls out to Father Abraham, even begging him to send Lazarus to help relieve his torment! He is a "good Jew" because he knew who Abraham was, yet rejected God on Earth, opting for pleasure instead. Lazarus, who received only bad things in his earthly life, is carried by the angels to be with God forever. Jesus, also, comes to turn things upside down. In faith, let us ever walk with Jesus on His road of humility.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Lord Jesus Christ, be with Andrew (Zavala) 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, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; 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 (September 28, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." (Psalm 146:7b-8)

**READING**

"And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'" (Luke 16:27-31)

**MEDITATION**

Death separates the believer from the unbeliever. Nothing can cross that great chasm once we are dead. In this life, God gives us Himself through His Holy Word. This very word has the power to create faith through the Holy Spirit. Faith is a gift to be received, not a possession to be owned. It is given in love and mercy, and received with humility, for we are all beggars before God.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

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

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)**

O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; 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 (September 29, 2022)**

St. Michael and All Angels

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." (Psalm 146:7b-8)

**READING**

"Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish." (Psalm 146:1-4)

**MEDITATION**

God is the giver of all good things. He comes to set us free from the prison of sin, death and the devil. He opens our eyes to the Way, the Truth and the Life that is Jesus. He lifts us up from the ash heap of despair and sets our feet securely on the foundation of His love and truth. He is the righteous One. In Him alone are we made righteous.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

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

**PRAYER FOR ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS**

Everlasting God, You have ordained and constituted the service of angels and men in a wonderful order. Mercifully grant that, as Your holy angels always serve and worship You in heaven, so by Your appointment they may also help and defend us here on earth; 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 (September 30, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." (Psalm 146:7b-8)

**READING**

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." (Psalm 146:5-8)

**MEDITATION**

God, the creator of Heaven and Earth, continues to care for his creation and we, His creatures. He who made the sea, washes us clean in the waters of baptism. He who is the source of all daily needs, feeds us with His very body and blood. He who gave up His very life, sets us free to live as His children forever.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Father, we lift up Ed (Fabian) 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, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; 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 (October 1, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous." (Psalm 146:7b-8)

### READING

"The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!" (Psalm 146:9-10)

### MEDITATION

God watches over those who live on the margins—the widows, the orphans and those who have lost their way on the journey of life. His outstretched arms on the cross, encircle the world with His forgiveness and love. He gives us faith to cling to Him and His promises. Those who reject Him and place their trust in themselves will find themselves on the outside of God's promises when they die. Let us cling to the one who saves us!

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Jerome (Herfindahl). 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, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; 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 (October 2, 2022)**

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 1:13)

**READING**

"O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted." (Habakkuk 1:2-4)

**MEDITATION**

Even today, we are surrounded by foes on every side. Strife, contention and violence are evident all around us and seems to intensify each day. In our fear, to whom shall we cry for help? Pray to God about your fears. Cry out in your anguish. He will hear. And He will answer.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Let your grace be upon Jim (Soals), O Lord, and give him 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 (FROM SUNDAY)**

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; 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 (October 3, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 1:13)

**READING**

"I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint. And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. "Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith." (Habakkuk 2:1-4)

**MEDITATION**

The righteous shall live by faith. Notice it doesn't say that the righteous will die by faith. We live by faith. Faith in what? Or even better, in Whom do we place our faith? Our faith is in Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the one who gives us life by His death.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Heavenly Father, bless Tom (Rogers) 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)**

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; 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 (October 4, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 1:13)

**READING**

"I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:3-7)

**MEDITATION**

There are times when a clear conscience seems far away. I feel guilty for what I do wrong, but I also feel guilty for what I don't get done. How do I serve God with a clear conscience? A clear conscience doesn't come from always doing the right thing, or from doing everything. A clear conscience comes from God Himself, who delivers it to you by His Son, Jesus Christ.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Lord Jesus Christ, be with Janet (Froh) 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)**

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; 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 (October 5, 2022)**

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

### **GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 1:13)

### **READING**

"Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, which is why I suffer as I do." (2 Timothy 1:8-12)

### **MEDITATION**

Jesus Christ abolished death and brought life and immortality to light. Because of that, everything is new and different. Because of that, we can share in the sufferings of Christ. We know how the story ends. And for that matter, the story really never ends. It only changes as we enter into eternal life with God. Through baptism, it is the greatest change.

### **SILENCE**

### **PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

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

### **PRAYER OF THE WEEK (FROM SUNDAY)**

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; 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 (October 6, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 1:13)

**READING**

"But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you." (2 Timothy 1:12-14)

**MEDITATION**

Follow the pattern. Want to know what God thinks of you? Follow the pattern. Want to learn how to live and die? Follow the pattern. The Holy Spirit delivers it to you by His Word. It is the good deposit God entrusted to you in Holy Baptism.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

Show your grace to Daisy (Davis) 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)**

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; 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 (October 7, 2022)

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

### GOSPEL SENTENCE

"Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 1:13)

### READING

"And he said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."" (Luke 17:1-4)

### MEDITATION

Why must I forgive my brother? What if he is undeserving of my forgiveness? What if he has sinned against me more times than I can count? Forgive, forgive, forgive, because that is what God does for you. Small and big, known and unknown, our sins are always before Him, and He always forgives. That is the pattern. Thanks be to God!

### SILENCE

### PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER

Father, we lift up Katie (Cross) 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, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; 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 (October 8, 2022)**

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

**GOSPEL SENTENCE**

"Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 1:13)

**READING**

"The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'" (Luke 17:5-10)

**MEDITATION**

A mustard seed is pretty small. One of the smallest seeds in the world, in fact. But the point of faith isn't how big or small it is. The point of faith is the object. In whom do you trust? If you trust in yourself, or your own wisdom or strength or knowledge, then you are in trouble. But if your trust is in the Trustworthy One, then that small faith can move mountains. It's not about *your* faith. It's about Jesus Christ, the Faithful One.

**SILENCE****PRAYER FOR HOLY CROSS MEMBER**

O Lord, in Holy Baptism you put your Name upon Jordan (Brauer). 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, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; 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**







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