The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*for 9th Sunday after Trinity*

*August 6, 2023*

*Pray and confess aloud as much from the order of meditation and prayer, as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

Catechesis Notes for the week – **Psalm 119: Samek and Ayin – Meditations on the Word of God – In the Mem section of Psalm 119 –** Spiritual hypocrisy is to have a divided heart, a heart that is not firmly anchored in God’s Word but willfully follows the appetites and desires of the flesh. The **Samek section** of Psalm 119 begins with a rejection of the “double-minded” or divided heart. For the Christian, God’s Word is the place of refuge and safety in the daily allure of the sinful flesh which would lead us astray. “You are my hiding place and shield…uphold me according to Your word, that I may live…Hold me up, and I shall be safe…” The Apostle declared that in his flesh there dwelt no good thing, therefore God’s Word alone is the source of safety, strength, comfort, and life for the faithful Christian. Only God’s Word can deliver us from the evil that lurks within us. In this section, law, word, commandments, statutes, testimonies, and judgments are the references to God’s Word. The **Ayin section** contains references to God’s righteousness. God’s righteousness ultimately centers in what Christ has done for our salvation in His death upon the cross. There He executed judgment and righteousness on our behalf as He suffered what the Law demanded for our sin. His righteousness is the source of our salvation, the mercy of God, and why the Lord’s commandments are more precious to us than fine gold. References to “the testimonies of the Lord” and His “righteous Word” are descriptions of the Gospel of the righteousness of God in Christ that covers our sin. In this section, righteous word, statutes, testimonies, law, commandments, and precepts are the references to God’s Word.

***Invocation* -In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Verse:** John 15:5 – I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

**Apostles’ Creed**

**Psalm of the Week: Psalm 119: 113-128**

**Year II – New Testament Stories**

**Bible Readings for the Week**

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| Sunday | Trinity 9 Gospel – Luke 18:15-17 |
| Monday | Moses Receives the Law upon Tables of Stone – Exodus 24:1-18 |
| Tuesday | The Ark of the Covenant – Exodus 25:1-22 |
| Wednesday | The Priestly Garments – Exodus 28:1-43 |
| Thursday | The Ransom Money – Exodus 30:11-16 |
| Friday | The Worship of the Golden Calf – Exodus 32:1-14 |
| Saturday | Trinity 10 OT – Jeremiah 7:1-11 |

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| **Catechism: First and Second Commandments** | **Grades** |
| The First Commandment:  You shall have no other gods | K+ |
| *What does this mean?*  We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. | 2nd+ |
| The Second Commandment:  You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. | K+ |
| *What does this mean?*  We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray praise, and give thanks. | 2nd+ |