The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*for 12th Sunday after Trinity*

*August 27, 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: Shin and Tau – Meditations on the Word of God –** Psalm 119 concludes with the **Shin** and **Tau** sections. Love for the Word of God is the cause of hatred and persecution from those who do not believe in the Lord. Love for the Word of God is also the source of peace and rejoicing for the Christian, especially in the midst of hardship and persecution. The Word of God inspires awe and reverence in the hearts of those who believe. The Word of God causes an aversion toward things that are evil. The Word of God gives peace to those who receive it. The Word of God upholds us so that we do not stumble. The Word of God gives us understanding and wisdom. It is the basis for our supplications and prayers to God. The Word of the Lord is the foundation of our confession of faith in Christ and all that we believe. The Word of God declares us righteous and bestows the gift of salvation. In the Shin and Tau sections of Psalm 119, word, law, righteous judgments, commandments, testimonies, precepts, and judgments are references to the Word of god. The Word of God gives assurance to the Christian that though we may stumble, the Lord will continually seek for us like a shepherd searching for a lost sheep.

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

**Verse:** Romans 13:10 – Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

**Apostles’ Creed**

**Psalm of the Week: Psalm 119: 161-176**

**Year II – Old Testament Stories**

**Bible Readings for the Week**

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| Sunday | Trinity 12 Gospel – Mark 7:31-37 |
| Monday | The Second Passover – Numbers 9:1-14 |
| Tuesday | A Pillar of Cloud by Day and a Pillar of Fire by Night – Numbers 9:15-23 |
| Wednesday | The People of Israel Complain Against the Lord – Numbers 11:1-17 |
| Thursday | The Lord Feeds His Grumbling People with Quail – Numbers 11:18-35 |
| Friday | Aaron and Miriam Speak Against Moses – Numbers 12:1-16 |
| Saturday | Trinity 13 OT – 2 Chronicles 28:8-15 |

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| **Catechism: Seventh and Eighth Commandments** | **Grades** |
| The Seventh Commandment:  You shall not steal | K+ |
| *What does this mean?*  We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income. | 2nd+ |
| The Eighth Commandment:  You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. | K+ |
| *What does this mean?*  We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way. | 2nd+ |