The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*for 14th Sunday after Trinity*

*September 10, 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 – When we, as Christians, feel as if we are all alone, the Lord is with us. He who endured every form of persecution and testing for us, stands with us when our faith is assaulted by an entire world that is hostile to the Gospel. Psalm 142 is a fervent prayer for relief: “I cry out to the Lord…I pour out my complaint…I declare before Him my trouble…” The Lord wants us to lean upon Him. He knows everything we are facing and He knows what the future holds: “When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then You knew my path.” All other helpers fail us. Only the Lord stands with us. “You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living…Deliver me from my persecutors.” Our enemies and persecutors may be stronger than we, but they are not stronger than the Lord Jesus who has trampled sin, Satan, and death under His feet. Because we belong to Him, we are safe and the Lord shall deal bountifully with us for our good and the preservation of our faith.

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

**Verse:** Romans 6:23 – For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Apostles’ Creed**

**Psalm of the Week: Psalm 142**

**Year II – Old Testament Stories**

**Bible Readings for the Week**

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| Sunday | Trinity 14 Gospel – Luke 17:11-19 |
| Monday | The Budding of Aaron’s Rod – Numbers 16:41-17:13 |
| Tuesday | Moses Strikes the Rock – Numbers 20:1-13 (14-29) |
| Wednesday | The Bronze Serpent – Numbers 21: (1-3)4-9 |
| Thursday | Balaam’s Donkey – Numbers 22:1 (2-4a) 4b-5, 12-38 (survey chapters 23 and 24) 24:10-13 (14-19)25 |
| Friday | The Sin of Peor – Numbers 25:1-18 |
| Saturday | Trinity 15 OT – 1 Kings 17:8-16 |

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| **Catechism: Conclusion of the Commandments** | **Grades** |
| *What does God say about all these commandments?*  He says, “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” (Ex. 20:5-6) | 2nd+ |
| *What does this mean?*  God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands. | 1st+ |