

Prayers

Christian

When it comes to traveling my life's path in this world, O Lord, you teach me that it is not the journey, but the destination. Keep me focused on the end by giving me a clear mind and self-control. Then make my journey a fruitful and blessed one. Fill my heart with love, with love that does not go out looking for sins in others. Make me live here, in these last days, with kindness, generosity and compassion. Amen.

Student

Your Word, O God, can stand on its own. It is sound, has always been so, and will remain thus through all generations. You have taught it to me and blessed me with parents, pastors and teachers through whom it has become mine. Cause me always to see myself as a student who needs to review what he has learned. Sound teaching is something I have received and something I can lose. Give me a heart that guards and keeps this precious treasure. Amen.

Proclaimer

Lord of heaven and earth, you want and deserve my praise. You have rescued me from death and given me the promise of eternal life in Christ. No one can be your child whose heart does not shout, *Alleluia*, for this blessed gift. You ask more from me, however. You want my heart in my throat, on my tongue, on my lips. O Lord, open my lips and I shall declare your praise among your people. Amen.

Evangelist

When you make a promise, O Lord, you keep it. You have promised our world time and you gave us the rainbow to assure us that we all have time here until the end. Use me and the time you have given me to proclaim your covenant promise of eternal joy through Christ. Amen.

Advocate

I hate controversy, O Lord. I hate it, not because I am some sort of a non-combative and conciliatory person, but as a fruit of my faith. So I ask you, keep me from being a source of division, from being sinfully schismatic. Make me proclaim only the truth. Steer my heart and lips clear of quarrels over words also. Lead me to see the great gain that godliness with contentment brings. Amen.

Counselor

Dear Jesus, earthly afflictions cause many to want to give up. They see no possibility of relief, only day after day of suffering. Help me to understand how easy it is to despair when improvement is a foreign word. Put into my hands and mouth the message of hope—not the vague and uncertain feeling that somehow things will get better, but the blessed assurance that everything in this life is temporary, and a day is coming when all your children will be free from every infirmity of body, mind and soul. Amen.

Benediction

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you. Blessed are those whose strength is in you. Psalm 84:4-5

Second Sunday of Easter

Prayer *Lord Jesus Christ, you came to your disciples and took away their fear with your word of peace. Come to me also and remove my fears with your comforting assurance that my sins are forgiven. Amen.*

Confession *For troubles without number surround me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see. They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails within me. Psalm 40:12*

Absolution *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works so no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9*

Psalm 16

I have set the LORD always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.
My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,
because you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.
You have made known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Hymn 152

I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living Head.
He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save.
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.
He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 16	Ps 16	Ps 16	Ps 116	2 Sa 12:1-10	Ps 48:9-14
Acts 2:14, 22-32	Acts 3:12-20	Acts 5:12, 17-32	Ge 15:1-6	Eph 2:11-18	Jos 3:9-17
1 Pe 1:3-9	1 Jn 5:1-6	Rev 1:4-18	1 Jn 5:4-10	Mt 12:38-42	2 Co 2:5-11
Jn 20:19-31	Jn 20:19-31	Jn 20:19-31	Jn 20:19-31	Jn 21:1-14	Lk 11:29-36

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Jn 11:9-10	Ps 1:1-3	1 Th 2:3-6	Da 7:13-14	2 Jn 7-11	1 Sa 2:1-10
AC XX:35-40	LC Pre:16	Ap XXIV:50-51	LC Bap:37	FC Int:4-5	FC II:47
WLS:5007	WLS:3734	WLS:2919	WLS:4879	WLS:3144	WLS:974
1 Jn 2:12-14	Dt 6:20-25	Mk 1:21-22	Job 19:23-27	1 Co 11:2	Na 1:2-7
LC TC:115-116	FC II:67	Ap XII:130	Ap VII/VIII:15-16	FC XI:3	SA III/III:43-45
WLS:692	WLS:4694	WLS:2297	WLS:526	WLS:4419	WLS:3254
SS 1:12-2:2	Lk 24:13-14	Hos 4:4-9	1 Pe 3:18-22	Est 9:1-17	Mt 18:15-18
SC LP:19-20	Ap IV:211	AC XXVI:4-17	SA III/III:38	Ap XXIII:5	Ap XI:64
WLS:3430	WLS:246	WLS:3959	WLS:3111	WLS:1214	WLS:4198
Isa 26:12	Heb 10:26-31	2 Ki 23:1-25	Mk 2:15	Pr 29:10	Dt 3:21-29
Ap XII:169-170	LC Cr:70	FC II:55-56	SC SoA:5-6	Ap XII:83-84	FC VI:14, 20
WLS:3625	WLS:3833	WLS:889	WLS:4581	WLS:2712	WLS:1174

Prayers

Christian

I have what I need from you, O Lord. You have shined into my life with the light of your grace. Keep me from stumbling in the darkness. Cause me to use my time in this world to your glory. Amen.

Student

The philosopher Hegel said that history teaches us that people have never learned anything from history. Let that never be true of me, O Lord! From the history of what you have done, from your mighty acts of judgment and deliverance, teach me to know you as my Lord and Savior. You have used many to instruct me. Be now my personal Pedagogue as I go through the Bible myself, that I might trust in your righteousness and that I might live in your obedience. Amen.

Proclaimer

Dear Jesus, you have called me to be a shepherd, and I want to be one like you. Yet, how easy it is to be a sheep! I am to be a leader, but I find myself drawn to following the crowd. Your condemnation of your Old Testament shepherds rings in my ears: "Like people, like priests." Keep me from stumbling, from feeding on the sins of the flock and from relishing their wickedness. Make me a faithful shepherd who leads your sheep to springs of living water. Amen.

Evangelist

I hate sin—especially my own. I am disgusted by sinners—and that includes me at the top of the list. But Jesus, you sought out sinners. You even ate with them! Since you have forgiven and accepted me, help me to share your forgiveness and to accept others. Make me a person who seeks more to remove sin than to be revulsed by sinners. Amen.

Advocate

The pressure to be "progressive" is almost unbearable at times. Even greater is the pressure to accept as brothers and sisters all who call themselves Christians, even though they do not continue in your teaching, O Jesus. Keep me on my guard against all who deceive in your name. Grant that I may never, in any way, share in their wicked work. Amen.

Counselor

O heavenly Father, no one can withstand your indignation or endure your fierce anger. Lives are consumed by the fire of your wrath and hearts are shattered before you. I am left to pick up the pieces. I am not complaining, only recognizing that I have a responsibility to provide disaster relief. And you give me the means to fulfill it. Use me to proclaim your goodness, to direct crushed and frightened souls to you, a refuge in every time of trouble. Amen.

Benediction

Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God. Galatians 6:16

Third Sunday of Easter

Prayer *O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who gave his life for the sheep. Nourish me in the pastures of your Word, that I may remain a lamb of your flock in this life and forever. Amen.*

Confession *If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 1 John 1:8*

Absolution *It was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed . . . , but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 1 Peter 1:18-19*

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine upon us,
that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation among all nations.
May the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you rule the peoples justly
and guide the nations of the earth.
Then the land will yield its harvest,
and God, our God, will bless us.
God will bless us,
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

Hymn 148

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the victor's triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!
Death's mightiest pow'rs have done their worst,
And Jesus has his foes dispersed;
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst. Alleluia!
He closed the yawning gates of hell;
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
Let songs of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia!
Lord, by the stripes which wounded you,
From death's sting free your servants, too,
That we may live and sing to you. Alleluia!

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 67	Ps 118	Ps 67	Ps 67	Ps 23	Ps 119:161-176
Acts 2:14a, 36-47	Acts 4:8-12	Acts 9:1-19a	La 3:18-26	He 4:1-13	Isa 40:6-11
1 Pe 1:17-21	1 Jn 1:1-2:2	Rev 5:11-14	1 Pe 2:11-20	Jn 10:1-11	Ro 4:23-5:11
Lk 24:13-25	Lk 24:36-49	Jn 21:1-14	Jn 16:16-23a	Jn 10:17-21	Jn 12:37-45

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Nu 32:1-27	Jn 6:45	Pr 10:20	1 Th 1:8	Jer 23:25-32	Acts 9:31
LC LP:8-9	FC II:5	Tr:67-68	Ap XXIV:56	Ap XXI:44	LC TC:71-72
WLS:648	WLS:5017	WLS:2303	WLS:520	WLS:4734	WLS:1684
Joel 1:13-15	Acts 2:42	Nu 20:1-13	Mt 9:35-37	Ps 69:6-12	Ro 7:21-25
SC Pre:19-20	Ap XXI:36-37	SC Pre:7	AtCr:40	LC TC:263	Ap IV:204-205
WLS:2352	WLS:1332	WLS:3603	WLS:1880	WLS:283	WLS:4675
Mt 6:1-8	Pr 22:17-21	1 Co 2:1-5	Jnh 3:1-10	Jude 3-4	2 Ki 19:14-19
Ap XXIII:6	FC VI:20	Ap IV:299	FC XI:23	FC VII:106	FC XI:30-32
WLS:3970	WLS:2549	WLS:420	WLS:3873	WLS:2198	WLS:679
Php 4:10-13	Ps 16:7-8	Acts 13:13-15	Nu 21:4-9	Mk 13:5-6	Ps 13:1-6
LC TC:211-212	AC XXVII:15-17	Ap IV:66-67	Ap XII:60	Tr:44	SC Con:29
WLS:611	WLS:4725	WLS:2964	WLS:1348	WLS:3624	WLS:2811

Prayers Christian

The threats of the Last Day fill me with terror and make me quake and quaver, O Lord. I may be one who ministers before your altar, yet that does not free me from the need to repent. Clothe me with the sackcloth of humility and true contrition when I consider the destruction you will send on that Day. Then relieve my trembling soul with your promise of salvation in Christ. Amen.

Student

You made me a student, dear God, for good reasons. You want me to have what is best for me, and that can come only from the promises you give me to trust. Cause me to see beyond my own heart, though. Put your Word there, but put it on my lips also that I may be able to give sound answers to those you have made my students. Amen.

Proclaimer

Why do people want to listen to me? Why do they sit quietly and wait for me to speak? You know, O God, and you remind me that your people come to hear a message of encouragement. Use my lips to lift up hearts and to fill your people with your peace in Christ. Amen.

Evangelist

Lord, you have made me a bell. I am not a funeral bell, tolling a muffled chime, announcing death and despair. I am not an alarm bell, clanging only danger and impending disaster. I am a liberty bell, pealing with the sound of freedom and salvation—your gospel. Cause me to ring clearly, loudly, and constantly, that the faith you have given me may be given to others. Amen.

Advocate

I want all things that I do and say to glorify you, dear Father. I want all things I do and say to bring your children closer to you. I have to confess that I have failed in both categories. Give me an abiding zeal for your kingdom. Let not insults, scorn, mockery or ridicule ever cause me to waver in my faithfulness. Amen.

Counselor

Helplessness is such a dismal condition. It infects so many and is so difficult to wrench from the heart. What can keep me and my people from feeling at the mercy of fate, or from feeling dominated by the forces of evil? Your promises are the final answer, O Lord. You are enthroned in heaven. You made the universe. You alone are God. In your gracious rule we find our help. Amen.

Benediction

May the LORD our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us. 1 Kings 8:57

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Prayer *O God, your Son suffered death to restore this world fallen under the curse of sin. Give joy to your family of believers day after day, and after this life let them share your eternal joy. Amen.*

Confession *The acts of the sinful nature are obvious . . . those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19, 21*

Absolution *I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"—and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Psalm 32:5*

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.
 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
 he leads me beside quiet waters.
 He guides me in paths of righteousness
 for his name's sake.
 Even though I walk through the valley of the
 shadow of death, I will fear no evil,
 for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
 they comfort me.
 Surely goodness and love will follow me all
 the days of my life,
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Hymn 375

The King of love my shepherd is,
 Whose goodness fails me never;
 I nothing lack if I am his,
 And he is mine forever.
 Confused and foolish oft I strayed,
 But yet in love he sought me
 And on his shoulder gently laid
 And home, rejoicing, brought me.
 And so through all the length of days
 Your goodness fails me never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
 Within your house forever!

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 23	Ps 23	Ps 23	Ps 23	Ps 100	Ps 66:1-12
Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60	Acts 4:23-33	Acts 13:15-16a, 26-33	Eze 34:11-16	1 Jn 2:3-11	2 Ki 20:1-11
1 Pe 2:19-25	1 Jn 3:1-2	Rev 7:9-17	1 Pe 2:21-25	Mk 2:18-22	Php 3:13-16
Jn 10:1-10	Jn 10:11-18	Jn 10:22-30	Jn 10:11-16	Jn 11:1-16	Mt 9:14-17

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Rev 2:4-5	2 Ki 12:1-2	Jn 8:12-20	Ps 72:15-17	Tit 3:9-11	Isa 43:1-7
SC LP:17-18	Ap XXVIII:18-19	LC Pre:1-2	FC I:39	FC RN:4	Ap XII:51-52
WLS:2824	WLS:1510	WLS:3598	WLS:3007	WLS:1195	WLS:4333
1 Co 7:10-16	Pr 3:1-4	Jas 3:1-2	Isa 11:1-10	Mt 5:8-12	Pr 14:30
AC XVIII:1-7	FC III:11	LC TC:69-70	LC Cr:54-55	Ap IV:400	FC XI:48-49
WLS:3684	WLS:2615	WLS:2904	WLS:5048	WLS:2658	WLS:1116
Ezr 9:1-15	Lk 24:4-8	Ps 89:1-2	Eph 1:13-14	Zec 13:1-6	Lk 1:46-55
LC LP:93-96	LC TC:91-92	SA II/II:24	SA III/XII:1-3	AC XXIII:24	LC LP:88-89
WLS:1509	WLS:4788	WLS:2950	WLS:455	WLS:3705	WLS:1831
Pr 16:2	1 Co 8:1-3	Isa 63:7	Rev 22:17	Dt 20:5-8	Jn 9:1-3
FC II:3	FC XI:92-93	SC Pre:26-27	LC Cr:42	FC VIII:61	Ap XII:102-105
WLS:2345	WLS:166	WLS:4749	WLS:1852	WLS:601	WLS:4113

Prayers

Christian

O Lord, sin comes so easily and often to me. I am not making excuses, but being surrounded by it surely does not help. Forgive me for all the times I have joined myself to the wicked and the wickedness of this world. I come before you today in my guilt, though because of it I cannot stand in your presence. Be gracious to me for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Student

I have come to experience the power and satisfaction of knowledge. People have listened to me and respected me because I knew something. Keep me from getting puffed up by knowledge. Fill me with the knowledge of my sin and your grace. Temper my knowledge with humility and love. Amen.

Proclaimer

I sometimes wonder why anyone would believe what I say. You give me the answer, Jesus. It is your Word I proclaim. And it is not your Word alone. It is the Word of the Father who sent you. Give me confidence that the light I reflect is you, the Light of the world. Amen.

Evangelist

O Jesus, you change everything. You change everything by your righteousness. What I could not hope to have, much less, to share, you have given me. Cause me to see what a dramatic difference you make for me and for all people. Give me joy in holding up the banner of your righteousness for all nations to rally around. Amen.

Advocate

You give me hope, O Holy Spirit, as I live in a world filled with false prophets. They deceive with seeming impunity. Every day they proclaim lies in your name and look like they are getting away with it. Fill my heart and lips with your truth and use me to fulfill your promise to cleanse this world from sin and impurity. Make every heretic afraid to speak and every errorist tremble to identify himself. Cause your Word alone to be honored and believed. Amen.

Counselor

When troubles strike, O Jesus, people want answers. They want to know, "Why?", and the reason they so often latch on to is their sin. They see what they suffer only as some sort of punishment for evil done, real or imagined. Use me to lift their eyes from their own hearts and lives to your heavenly Father, to see suffering as you saw it, as an opportunity to bring him glory through faith and perseverance. Amen.

Benediction

May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you. Psalm 33:22

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Prayer *O God, by your Holy Spirit you have united your people in one heart and will. Help me to love what you command and to long for what you promise. Then, while I live in this changing world, I shall set my heart and mind on the changeless joys of heaven. Amen.*

Confession *For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. Psalm 51:3-4*

Absolution *He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. Isaiah 53:5*

Psalm 116

I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;
he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.
The LORD is gracious and righteous;
when I was in great need, he saved me.
For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.
How can I repay the LORD for all his goodness to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

Hymn 141

At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from his pierced side. Alleluia!
Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!
Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 33	Ps 67	Ps 145	Ps 66	Jer 15:15-21	Ps 122
Acts 17:1-12	Acts 8:26-40	Acts 13:44-52	1 Ch 16:23-34	Eph 2:19-22	Jdg 7:15-22
1 Pe 2:4-10	1 Jn 3:18-24	Rev 21:1-6	Jas 1:16-21	Jn 5:19-29	1 Co 14:20-26
Jn 14:1-12	Jn 15:1-8	Jn 13:31-35	Jn 16:5-15	Jn 11:17-27	Jn 21:20-25

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Am 4:6-13	2 Pe 3:1-2	Ps 40:9-10	Lk 2:10-18	Ps 31:19-20	2 Co 11:28-29
Ap II:8	FC II:15	FC II:54	AtCr:2	LC TC:63-64	FC IV:23
WLS:4077	WLS:3267	WLS:841	WLS:4225	WLS:3180	WLS:947
Job 42:1-6	Eph 1:15-23	Zec 10:2-3	Acts 16:25-31	1 Sa 5:6-12	Mk 5:25-34
LC TC:271-273	LC Pre:11-13	FC XI:42	Ap XXIV:32	FC RN:1-2	LC TC:155-157
WLS:421	WLS:4170	WLS:2877	WLS:1190	WLS:3845	WLS:2799
Acts 24:14-16	Ps 27:11	Lk 8:4-8, 11-15	Ps 96:3	Php 1:12-14	Jer 4:19-22
FC II:6-7	FC VII:96	LC Cr:43-46	Ap VII/VIII:30-31	SA Pre:10-11	Ap XI:149
WLS:3147	WLS:790	WLS:3590	WLS:2377	WLS:1257	WLS:4236
Mk 12:41-44	Ps 122:1	2 Ti 4:1-2	Hag 2:6-9	Rev 22:18-19	2 Ch 20:6-12
Ap XXIV:69-70	LC Pre:9	LC TC:161-163	AC V:1-4	Ap XX:4-8	FC XI:5
WLS:4645	WLS:3085	WLS:2917	WLS:4578	WLS:2661	WLS:30

Prayers

Christian

There are so many changes I need to make to live as your child. I need a changed heart and a changed mind, O Christ. Give me grace to have a converted purse as well. Help me to give richly and cheerfully of the wealth you have given me, not as an example of my love to others, but because of the example of your love to me. Amen.

Student

Epigone—what an unusual and cutting term. Some would use it to describe me, a person who recalls the words of long-dead prophets and apostles and looks to those words to stimulate wholesome thinking. Yet you never say it to me, O Lord, for their words are your Word. If that is being an epigone, by your grace may I never fail to be one. Amen.

Proclaimer

It is not hard for me to anger you, dear God. My heart and my life multiply examples. As one called to tend your sheep, my lips have even more opportunities. Keep lies, deceit, falsehood and vain words from my mouth. Forgive where I have wandered and led others astray. Use me to care for your flock faithfully. Amen.

Evangelist

People should just know, should they not? Should they not just know your glory and your marvelous deeds? Some presume they do, O Lord, but how they shortchange you, admiring your wisdom and power and missing your love and grace! The nations need to hear of the glory of forgiveness, and all people the marvelous deeds of salvation. And because of your plan, they need me to declare this. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. Amen.

Advocate

Though we may not want to accept it, O Spirit, there are some absolutes in life. Your Word is at the top of the list. It dare not be tampered with or altered in any way. The judgments you threaten against anyone whose arrogance leads him to imagine it needs an overhaul are most severe. Keep me from such brazenness and insolence. Make its acceptance my chief endeavor and its truth my soul trust. Amen.

Counselor

Give me a heart for your people, O heavenly Father. Give me a heart that knows what they are going through that I might be better able to help them. I know what this means: daily pressure from my constant concern for them. But how can I not care for those on whom you have had compassion? Amen.

Benediction

The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights. Habakkuk 3:19

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Prayer *O God, I look to you for all I need, and you give me every good thing. May your Holy Spirit teach me to desire and to do what is godly and right. Amen.*

Confession *Why should any living man complain when punished for his sins? . . . We have sinned and rebelled and you have not forgiven. Lamentations 3:39, 42*

Absolution *The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Matthew 20:28*

Psalm 98

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
The LORD has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.
He has remembered his love and
his faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth
have seen the salvation of our God.
Shout before the LORD, the King,
all the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

You Did Descend in Victory

written by Allen Lindke, sung to the tune, *Winchester New*

You did descend in victory,
O Christ, into the depths of hell,
Your life once giv'n and now restored,
Your triumph there to preach and tell.
Redemption sealed, your enemies
Defeated, led in helpless train,
You preached to long-imprisoned souls
And certified your deathless reign.
When in our lives the day seems lost
And Satan's power threatens death,
Renew us by your word in hell,
The triumph from your living breath.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 66 Acts 17:22-31 1 Pe 3:15-22 Jn 14:15-21	Ps 98 Acts 11:19-26 1 Jn 4:1-11 Jn 15:9-17	Ps 65 Acts 14:8-18 Rev 21:10-14, 22-23 Jn 14:23-29	Ps 85 Jer 29:1-14 Jas 1:22-27 Jn 16:23b-30	Ge 18:16-33 1 Jn 3:19-24 Lk 18:1-18 Jn 11:28-45	Ps 145:13-21 1 Ki 3:5-15 1 Jn 5:11-15 Mt 7:7-12
Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Tit 2:2-6 LC TC:73-77 WLS:1450	Ps 119:26-27 LC TC:95-97 WLS:4693	Acts 9:19-22 Ap IV:120-121 WLS:2296	1 Ch 16:23-26 Ap IV:163 WLS:776	Lk 16:17 Ap XXIV:44-46 WLS:4759	Ps 55:1-8 LC LP:15-16 WLS:1078
Lk 16:10-15 FC IV:10-12 WLS:2084	Pr 9:10-12 FC VI:4 WLS:1668	2 Co 3:7-11 AC XXVIII:5-12 WLS:3602	Jer 31:31-34 FC VIII:59 WLS:1847	Acts 7:59-60 Ap XXIV:10 WLS:1203	Dt 30:11-20 Ap XI:2 WLS:5016
Jer 29:11-14 AC XVI:4-7 WLS:4117	1 Jn 2:24-27 FC XI:12-13 WLS:3132	Ex 3:1-12 FC I:59 WLS:882	Jn 1:4-5 AtCr:1-4 WLS:4221	Pr 17:27 FC X:10-13 WLS:2620	Jdg 2:1-5 FC XI:89-91 WLS:1437
Dt 9:1-6 LC TC:287-289 WLS:694	Jn 10:25-27 FC I:8 WLS:4726	Ps 119:171-172 FC XI:25-26 WLS:2969	1 Ti 4:9-10 Ap II:9-10 WLS:1558	Isa 66:5-6 FC X:161-7 WLS:3768	Rev 3:19 LC SoA:23-27 WLS:2054

Prayers

Christian

Lord of every age, my times are in your hands. Younger or older, male or female, you are the Father of every Christian. You are my Father. Help me to live as your child in every age of my life with moderation, reverence, purity, and self-control. Amen.

Student

I have not reached the end of my learning. I have not reached the beginning of the end, nor even the end of the beginning. Make me wiser through your instruction, O Lord, and add to my learning by your teaching. Keep me grounded in the beginning of wisdom through filial fear. Amen.

Proclaimer

Who am I, O Lord, that I should be the one? Who am I, O Lord, that I should free a single person from his bonds? Who am I, O Lord, that you should choose me to be your messenger? I know the answer my heart gives: I am a consumer, not a producer. I am the man left half-dead on the road to Jericho, not the good Samaritan. Yet a messenger is what you call me to be, not from a burning bush, but through your church. Remind me that your call does not measure me--it defines me. Renew my heart daily to accept your call and to proclaim your message of salvation faithfully. Amen.

Evangelist

The Teacher described this world as, "Meaningless! Meaningless! Everything is meaningless!" But he did not describe you that way, O God, nor your gospel. As I labor and strive I know that the gospel is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. Make this my daily motivation and encouragement, that you are the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Amen.

Advocate

It is hard to give everything its relative value. What this world has to offer, from wealth to wit, from wonders to wisdom, seems so enduring. But your Word, O Lord, will never disappear, not a jot or tittle of it. Grant me grace to stand on it and up for it. Then I know nothing shall move me. Amen.

Counselor

On the one hand, O heavenly Father, it looks like people have so many choices. Indeed, as I counsel them, I remind them that there are different paths they have before them. I even encourage and admonish them to choose wisely. But when it comes to your commands, to your love, to your life, there is no choice. Keep me from giving options where there are none and guide my lips to give direction only to the path of true obedience, love and life. Amen.

Benediction

The LORD . . . will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:7-8

Ascension

Prayer *Lord Jesus Christ, you have ascended into heaven and received power to rule over the whole creation. Make me eager and strong to carry out your command and share your salvation with all the earth. Amen.*

Confession *What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! . . . "There is no one righteous, not even one." Romans 3:9, 10*

Absolution *I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you. Isaiah 44:22*

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you nations;
shout to God with cries of joy.
How awesome is the LORD Most High,
the great King over all the earth!
God has ascended amid shouts of joy,
the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.
For God is the King of all the earth;
sing to him a psalm of praise.
God reigns over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne.

Hymn 175

Hail the day that sees him rise
To his throne above the skies!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n,
Reascends his native heav'n.
See, he lifts his hands above;
See, he shows the prints of love.
Hark! His gracious lips bestow
Blessings on his Church below.
Still for us he intercedes;
His prevailing death he pleads.
He, the first of all our race,
Near himself prepares a place.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 47	Ps 47	Ps 47	Ps 47	Ps 47	Ps 110
Acts 1:1-11	Acts 1:1-11	Acts 1:1-11	2 Ki 2:1-11	Eph 4:7-16	Ps 68:15-20
Eph 1:16-23	Eph 1:16-23	Eph 1:16-23	Acts 1:1-11	Lk 24:50-53	Rev 19:11-16
Lk 24:44-53	Lk 24:44-53	Lk 24:44-53	Lk 24:36-53	Jn 17:17-26	Mt 16:24-28
Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Pr 23:29-35	Pr 21:16	Eze 33:1-9	Heb 10:9-10	2 Ki 11:1-21	Lk 18:1-8
FC IV:7	FC II:46	SC Pre:1-6	Ap IV:291	FC RN:9	Ap XII:128
WLS:2547	WLS:254	WLS:4474	WLS:1887	WLS:79	WLS:4518
Ge 3:1-3, 16-19	Mk 13:21-23	Job 42:7-9	2 Co 3:6	Jer 11:18-23	Heb 6:16-20
Ap IV:270-271	Ap XXVII:60	Ap IV:256-257	SC Bap:5-8	Tr:44	FC II:12-14
WLS:4524	WLS:3129	WLS:2915	WLS:4526	WLS:3134	WLS:23
Ro 6:15-23	Pr 19:20	Pr 10:31-32	Ru 2:5-12	Jn 9:24-34	Ecc 10:4
LC TC:2-3	FC XI:33	Ap XII:39-43	LC Bap:83	Ap XXIV:96	SA III/III:1-6
WLS:1613	WLS:4695	WLS:2906	WLS:489	WLS:3292	WLS:2809
Heb 12:14-17	Dt 11:16-21	Jn 13:16	Ecc 9:4	2 Co 13:8	Isa 55:1-3
SC Pre:19-20	Ap XXVII:55	AC VII:1-4	FC XI:65-67	LC LP:47-48	Ap XII:158-160
WLS:2792	WLS:1241	WLS:3584	WLS:2989	WLS:286	WLS:3969

Prayers

Christian

I thank you, heavenly Father, for the gift of life, but I do not want to live here forever, and you do not want me to either. My mortality is my own fault, a clear and convincing reminder from you that my sin and sins have consequences. Lift my eyes from this so-called life, filled with labor pains and domineering husbands, thistle-filled gardens, sweaty brows and casket makers, to the true life your Son alone gives, the glorious life, the eternal life beyond the dust that beckons me daily. Amen.

Student

I too often get it turned around, O Holy Spirit. I regard too highly the pleasure of being considered wise and give too low an estimate to actually being wise. How foolish I am! Haughtiness is always a down escalator. Give me humility. Make me wise by knowing that I do not know and by understanding that I do not understand. Then bring me up, make me wise, by leading me to listen to your advice and to accept your instruction. Amen.

Proclaimer

Some people think highly of me, O Jesus, and I like it. They compliment me. I can see affection, even devotion, in their eyes. Keep my heart and head from swelling, I pray. You are the Master, I am the servant. I am the messenger, you are the one who sent me. When honor, affection and devotion come knocking as I proclaim your Word, give me a heart that answers the door and says, "It is for you, Jesus." Amen.

Evangelist

Free will is such an attractive, yet, tragically, faulty, concept, O Lord—at least when it applies to us. All hearts have imagined they had it, yet none has. It is your will, your free will alone that saves us. Make me an evangelist whose words focus on what you want for all and on what you accomplished for all through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ once for all—by your free will. Amen.

Advocate

O Lord, sometimes I am so clueless and naïve. I go about the ministry to which you have called me and fail to see the power of Satan at work in those who do not want to accept your teachings. Make me realize this is happening. And keep these thoughts from leading me to give up, or worse, to give in. You know all, O Lord, and vengeance is yours. I trust in you to judge righteously and at your appointed time. Amen.

Counselor

When people come to me for counsel and lay their troubles before me, I start to change, dear God. My heart beats faster. I breathe more rapidly. My palms get sweaty. I get anxious, and this anxiousness is really no help. Your Word says that "calmness can lay great errors to rest." That is what I ask for today. Make me calm, cool and collected. Give me a patient ear, a settled heart, a measured tongue and an opened mind. Amen.

Benediction

For surely, O LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield. Psalm 5:12

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Prayer *Lord Jesus Christ, you have reminded me of the cross I must carry because I am yours. Give me strength by your Spirit to fight the enemy who seeks to destroy your church on earth. Amen.*

Confession *"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty." Isaiah 6:5*

Absolution *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9*

Psalm 8

O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth.
You have set your glory above the heavens.

When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
what is man that you are mindful of him,
the Son of Man that you care for him?

You made him a little lower than the heavenly
beings and crowned him with glory and honor.
You made him ruler over the works of your hands;
you put everything under his feet.

Hymn 170

Draw us to thee, for then shall we
Walk in thy steps forever
And hasten on where thou art gone
To be with thee, dear Savior.

Draw us to thee; oh, grant that we
May walk the road to heaven!
Direct our way lest we should stray
And from thy paths be driven.

Draw us to thee that also we
Thy heav'nly bliss inherit
And ever dwell where sin and hell
No more can vex our spirit.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 8	Ps 8	Ps 8	Ps 78	Isa 55	Ps 19
Acts 1:1-14	Acts 1:15-26	Acts 16:6-10	Eze 36:24-28	2 Co 5:1-16	Ge 45:1-15
1 Pe 4:12-17; 5:6-11	1 Jn 4:13-21	Rev 22:12-17, 20	1 Pe 4:7-11	Jn 8:12-20	Acts 13:1-12
Jn 17:1-11	Jn 17:11-19	Jn 17:20-26	Jn 15:26-16:4	Lk 11:5-13	Lk 9:51-56

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Jn 13:8	Ecc 8:16-17	Tit 1:1-3	Isa 42:1-7	1 Co 1:18-25	1 Ki 14:12-13
Ap XXIV:25-26	Ap IV:211	LC Pre:1-2	SC SoA:5-6	SC TC:15-16	FC VI:21
WLS:4604	WLS:4275	WLS:190	WLS:4570	WLS:1965	WLS:1355
Jas 3:3-12	Ex 33:12-23	Mt 23:1-12	Ps 86:8-10	2 Th 2:8-12	Isa 35:3-4
LC Bap:84-86	FC VI:14	Tr:25-26	Ap XII:60	FC RN:10	LC LP:10-11
WLS:1298A	WLS:4805	WLS:2941	WLS:812	WLS:3717	WLS:2838
Ps 127:1-5	Gal 1:11-12	Am 3:3-8	1 Jn 4:9-10	Ge 14:17-24	Mt 27:1-10
SC TC:7-8	LC Cr:63-65	SC Pre:14-16	Ap XII:30	FC XI:50	Ap XIII:20-22
WLS:2957	WLS:211	WLS:4803	WLS:1845	WLS:1220	WLS:4326
Isa 26:16-19	Rev 22:7	Ne 8:1-12	Mk 12:1-11	Ps 133	Ro 8:12-17
AC XXVI:31-39	FC II:10	Ap XII:28-29	SA III/V:4	Ap XXIII:59	FC XI:14, 20
WLS:4889	WLS:3166	WLS:1204	WLS:3926	WLS:2696	WLS:1119

Prayers

Christian

Only you can make my house a home, O heavenly Father. Only you can make it a place of comfort and security—all my efforts would be doomed to failure. Only you can give me the joy and delight of a family—I have to recognize that a spouse and children are your gracious gifts. And so I ask you to do for me that which only you can: Make my house a home. Grant me blessed sleep there under your loving care. Bind me and my family together in faith and love. And through this home, give me a foretaste of the eternal home that is mine because your Son died, rose and ascended for me. Amen.

Student

I am not the world's best manager of money, O Lord. My hands, my pockets and my bank accounts have often been sieves rather than catch basins. Do not let that happen to me in connection with your Word. I have it in greater amounts. It brings more lasting benefits. It is my richest treasure. Put an impervious seal on my mind and heart and stop up any drains or leaks, that I might be blessed by keeping it. Amen.

Proclaimer

I do not trust others as I would like to and probably should. I hate being fooled or taken advantage of, and the skeptic in me lives. That is why it is so amazing, O Spirit of the Lord, that you should entrust something to me. I can hardly believe that you have called me to proclaim your Word, your faithful, saving, eternal promises. Forgive me when I have disappointed you and renew me daily in my faithfulness. Amen.

Evangelist

O God, maps can be so confusing and frustrating. They are meant to give directions, but sometimes when people read them they have trouble figuring out which way to go. Whether it is the tangle of lines or the plethora of choices, maps do not always help—except your gospel map. Your gospel map shows the way from sin to righteousness, from despair to hope, from hell to heaven. It has only one line: your promise, your salvation, your Son. You alone are God and your name alone saves. Cause me to point to no other way. Amen.

Advocate

“Victory has many fathers, but defeat is an orphan.” True? Sometimes perhaps, but not when it comes to you, O Spirit. You have called me fight for the truth of your Word in this world. I have seen Satan back down. I have rejoiced when the gospel has conquered hearts. Make me to realize and accept that it never was nor will it ever be I. I thank you for using me as your soldier, but the glory of each victory is always yours alone. Amen.

Counselor

O Counselor, I am not a psychiatrist, nor a psychologist. Theoretical concepts of the human psyche may be interesting, even helpful, but you give the insight I need as a counselor of souls when you tell of the battle inside the Christian between flesh and faith. Cause me to see each child of God who seeks my help in this way. Help me lead all to live in hope as your daughters and sons. Amen.

Benediction *Peace to all of you who are in Christ. 1 Peter 5:14*

Pentecost Sunday

Prayer *Holy Spirit, God and Lord, be gracious and come to me with your many gifts. Grant me especially the gift of faith that I may with all boldness and confidence declare Jesus to be my risen Savior and King. Amen.*

Confession *As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. Ephesians 2:1-2*

Absolution *I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more. Isaiah 43:25*

Psalm 51

Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.

O LORD, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

Hymn 176

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!
May all your graces be outpoured
On each believer's mind and heart;
Your fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of your light
In holy faith your church unite
From ev'ry land and ev'ry tongue;
This to your praise, O Lord our God, be sung:
Alleluia!
Alleluia!

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 51b	Ps 51b	Ps 51b	Ps 51b	Eze 36:22-28	Ps 36
Joel 2:28-29	Eze 37:1-14	Ge 11:1-9	Joel 2:28-29	1 Co 2:6-16	Isa 32:14-18
Acts 2:1-21	Acts 2:1-21	Acts 2:1-21	Acts 2:1-13	Jn 14:15-21	2 Co 1:18-24
Jn 16:5-11	Jn 14:25-27	Jn 15:26-27	Jn 14:23-31	Jn 6:60-71	Mt 10:1-15

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Jos 24:15	Lk 2:46-49	Ps 37:30-31	Php 3:7-11	Nu 13:26-33	Ps 86:14-17
LC TC:187	FC II:57-58	FC VI:3	Ap XII:8-9	SA Pre:10-11	LC LP:57
WLS:418	WLS:4799	WLS:2622	WLS:143	WLS:4418	WLS:21
Eze 11:19-20	Jn 17:17	Nu 24:12-13	Mt 18:10-14	Ps 55:20-21	1 Co 9:19-23
SA Pre:12	LC TC:88-89	LC SoA:43-44	AC IV:1-3	Ap XIV:3-5	Ap XII:88-89
WLS:1781	WLS:1655	WLS:3596	WLS:3315	WLS:911	WLS:4532
Mt 19:1-12	Ps 90:12, 16	1 Ti 2:7	Mal 3:6-7	1 Jn 1:6-7	2 Sa 22:2-7
Ap XXIII:66	FC XI:76-77	LC Sh Pre:26-27	FC V:22	LC LP:41	FC I:32
WLS:3871	WLS:3133	WLS:2911	WLS:3858	WLS:3367	WLS:967
2 Th 3:6-13	Isa 45:18-19	Acts 19:8-10	Ge 45:1-7	Mt 10:34-39	Ps 28:1-2
LC SoA:39-42	LC Pre:19-20	Tr:11	Ap XXVIII:7	FC XI:94-96	LC LP:104
WLS:382	WLS:4492	WLS:3569	WLS:456	WLS:3592	WLS:2817

Prayers

Christian

I am often busy, O Lord, maybe even too busy at times. I tend to see this busyness as a burden, almost to the point of being a curse. But you do not condemn being busy; you condemn idleness. Give me balance as I labor for you in my home, ministry and community. Help me to see that earning the bread I eat is following your command. No matter how busy I might be, never let me tire of doing what is right. Amen.

Student

I wonder, O Jesus, if I were missing, where would people look for me? Would others be astonished to find me studying your Word? Make that my priority in life, as it was yours. Cause me to sit at your feet in my Father's house, to listen to his voice and to seek from him the answers to my heart's questions. Amen.

Proclaimer

Balaam did the right thing for the wrong reason, did he not, O Lord? You made him your messenger and he spoke the words you gave him only because he had to. I want to be different. Like Balaam, I cannot go beyond your command. I must say what you say. I pray, warm my heart with the gospel that I may proclaim your Word faithfully out of trust, love and thankfulness. Amen.

Evangelist

When I am inclined to question why I have troubles, I really need to ask a different question, do I not? Why do not worse things happen to me? You answer that part clearly, O Lord: You do not change. Because of your unchanging grace I am not destroyed. By that same grace, change me every day. Make me an instrument of change so that all may change by returning to you and there find your unchanging love in Christ. Amen.

Advocate

Dear Jesus, standing up for the truth of your Word does not always bring peace. I am not complaining, just recognizing and accepting what you said would happen. It is especially distressing to see the conflict and separation in families that happens when some hold to errors, become enemies of the truth, and then even enemies of those who hold to the truth. Give me strength to bear this cross and follow you, no matter the cost. Amen.

Counselor

I know how you are to me, O Holy Spirit. I have experienced in my own heart and life your compassion and grace. You have been slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness. Make me like you to those who turn to you through me. Help me to understand and to comfort, to forgive sin and relieve distress, to show love and give hope. You have shown me the sign of your goodness, the gospel in word and sacrament. Use me to show it to those in need. Amen.

Benediction

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation always say, "The LORD be exalted!" Psalm 40:16

Holy Trinity Sunday

Prayer *Almighty and eternal God, you have taught me to believe and confess your eternal glory as one God in three persons. I ask you to keep me in this faith and confession and to defend me from everything that would endanger or destroy it. Amen.*

Confession *The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on earth had become and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. Genesis 6:5*

Absolution *He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? . . . It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Isaiah 50:8, 9*

Psalm 150

Praise the LORD.
Praise God in his sanctuary,
praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his acts of power;
praise him for his surpassing greatness.
Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,
praise him with the harp and lyre.
Praise him with the clash of cymbals;
praise him with resounding cymbals.
Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
Praise the LORD.

Hymn 191

Father most holy, merciful, and tender;
Jesus, our Savior, with the Father reigning;
Spirit of comfort, Advocate, Defender,
Light never waning;
Trinity sacred, Unity unshaken;
Deity perfect, giving and forgiving;
Light of the angels, Life of the forsaken;
Hope of the living;
To the all-ruling triune God be glory,
Highest and greatest, over all exalted;
We, too, would praise you, giving honor to you
Now and forever.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 150	Ps 150	Ps 150	Ps 73	Nu 6:22-27	Ps 1
Ge 1:1-2:3	Isa 6:1-8	Nu 6:22-27	Isa 6:1-8	1 Pe 1:1-9	Jer 10:1-16
2 Co 13:11-14	Ro 8:14-17	Ro 5:1-5	Ro 11:33-36	Mt 3:13-17	2 Ti 1:7-14
Mt 28:16-20	Jn 3:1-17	Jn 16:12-15	Jn 3:1-15	Mt 28:16-20	Lk 3:21-33

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
1 Pe 3:1-6	Pr 8:35-36	Mk 13:31	Ps 108:3-5	2 Ti 4:3-5	Isa 49:13-18
FC I:11-12	LC Cr:24	AC XXVI:4-17	FC XI:83-84	FC RN:19-20	Ap XII:161
WLS:2357	WLS:238	WLS:4297	WLS:1679	WLS:1017	WLS:4159
1 Ti 3:1-13	Ps 25:12	Heb 4:12	2 Ki 7:3-9	Mk 3:1-6	Ps 107:17-22
Ap XXIV:19	FC VII:45-47	FC II:55-56	SA III/III:1-6	FC I:50-51	FC II:68
WLS:3942	WLS:3731	WLS:880	WLS:4568	WLS:3002	WLS:985
Ex 22:25-27	Jn 8:47	Pr 29:18	Gal 3:6-9	Da 3:13-26	Jas 1:12
LC TC:125-128	Ap IV:265-266	FC V:24-26	SC SoA:5-6	Ap II:51	LC LP:103
WLS:1571	WLS:4741	WLS:3102	WLS:204	WLS:3840	WLS:2432
Pr 18:22	Col 1:9	Isa 30:8-11	Jas 1:18	Jdg 16:23-30	Jn 4:46-54
FC VII:74	FC II:25-26	LC Cr:11-12	AtCr:1-4	Ap XXVII:18-19	Ap IV:17-18
WLS:2834	WLS:1678	WLS:3586	WLS:2997	WLS:1247	WLS:4230

Prayers

Christian

Beauty is definitely not in the eye of the beholder, is it, Lord? You make this very point when it comes to the beauty of wives. True beauty is found in the inner self, in a gentle and quiet spirit that trusts your promises and strives to follow your commands. Lead me to make this my primary criterion for beauty. After all, what could ever be more glorious and attractive in a wife than the purity and reverence of her life? Amen.

Student

When it comes to knowing you, O Lord, your curriculum has no electives. You have taken away my “freedom” to think as I want, and I thank you for this. You did not let me remain in the way I chose in my sinful freedom, but you have instructed me in the way chosen for me by you. Nurture filial fear in my heart, and continue to renew my heart and mind through my study of your Word. Amen.

Proclaimer

O Lord, there is an eternity of difference between being cut free and cut loose. By your revelation you cut all people free from the bonds of sin, guilt and the law. Without your revelation, they are cut loose to believe and act without restraint. Help me always to proclaim your revelation with confidence in the blessings it gives and with a recognition of the disastrous ramifications when it is missing. Amen.

Evangelist

Thank you, God, for not practicing spiritual birth control. You have given me birth through your Word of truth. Indeed, you chose me and made me your “wanted child.” But you want more than the firstfruit. Help me to see that your “planned parenthood” is for all people, and that the gospel that brings new birth is in my hands. Put it on my lips also. Amen.

Advocate

O Holy Spirit, there are so many reasons for hating false doctrine. How self-centered it is! How people-driven it springs up, inspired by itching ears! And, oh, how consuming it can be when I must confront it! Keep me always focused on all the duties of my ministry. Prevent the distractions that necessarily accompany false doctrines from blinding me to my calling as an evangelist. Amen.

Counselor

I have little trouble sympathizing with people who suffer misfortunes they seem to fall victim to, like accidents or illnesses. It is a lot tougher to pity those who suffer affliction directly connected to their sins, like adulterers whose spouses leave them, or drunkards with liver problems. Part of me wants to say, “It serves you right.” Give me your heart for all the distressed, O Holy Spirit, the heart that sent forth your Word and healed me, the heart that reaches out to all in distress with the comfort and joy of the gospel. Amen.

Benediction

The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:7

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O God, the strength of all who trust in you, mercifully hear my prayers. Be gracious to me in my weakness and give me strength to keep your commandments in all I say and do. Amen.*

Confession *O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief. Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before you. Psalm 143:1-2*

Absolution *The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Mark 10:45*

Psalm 78

O my people, hear my teaching;
listen to the words of my mouth.
I will utter hidden things, things from of old--
what we have heard and known,
what our fathers have told us.
We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD.
Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds
but would keep his commands.

Hymn 190

We now implore God the Holy Ghost
For the true faith which we need the most,
That in our last moments he may befriend us
And, as homeward we journey, attend us.
Lord, have mercy!
Shine in our hearts, O most precious Light,
That we Jesus Christ may know aright,
Clinging to our Savior, whose blood has bought us,
Who again to our homeland has brought us.
Lord, have mercy!

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soil
Ps 78	Ps 126	Ps 100	Ps 143	Pr 11:23-31	Ps 1
Dt 11:18-21, 26-28	Dt 5:12-15	1 Ki 8:22-23, 41-43	Dt 6:4-18	Ro 8:1-11	Dt 5:22-33
Ro 3:21-25, 27-28	2 Co 4:5-12	Gal 1:1-10	1 Jn 4:16-21	Mt 19:16-26	2 Ti 2:19-26
Mt 7:15-29	Mk 2:23-28	Lk 7:1-10	Lk 16:19-31	Jn 15:1-8	Jn 6:47-58

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Mal 1:12-14	Heb 2:1-4	Ps 68:34-35	Lk 5:31-32	Pr 22:10	Lk 1:13
Ap IV:349-350	FC II:89	Ap XII:28-29	Tr:31	Ap Pre:10-16	FC XI:5
WLS:4633	WLS:2269	WLS:890	WLS:4039	WLS:1988	WLS:983
Job 35:4-8	Lk 10:38-42	Mal 3:13-15	Acts 5:42	1 Ki 13:1-5	Mk 2:17
LC TC:208	FC VIII:96	Ap XI:5	Ap II:9-10	LC LP:47-48	LC LP:33
WLS:1009	WLS:4736	WLS:3565	WLS:460	WLS:4768	WLS:2228
1 Jn 3:7-10	Dt 32:44-47	Lk 3:7-9	Ps 47:1-2, 9	1 Co 14:8	Jer 20:13-18
FC XI:4	LC Cr:23	AC XIV	Ap XXI:17-18	FC Int:1-3	Ap IV:37-38
WLS:2562	WLS:1417	WLS:3546	WLS:2869	WLS:644	WLS:4953
Mk 10:41-45	Ps 111:2-4	1 Co 4:1-4	Am 9:11-15	Rev 2:2-3	Ge 18:16-33
Ap XXIII:7-8	Ap XV:29-30	FC V:14	LC LP:52	SA II/IV:15	FC XI:73-74
WLS:4312	WLS:3720	WLS:1258	WLS:4576	WLS:1906	WLS:158

Prayers

Christian

I am inclined to find the center of the universe a bit too close to home, usually in the mirror. As personally as I must take my life, as grievously as I must mourn my sins, as faithfully as I must practice righteousness, what I do and say and think really has no effect on you, does it, O Sovereign Lord? I cannot give anything to you or take anything away from you. Give me your divine perspective to recognize the creature in the mirror and the Creator above it. Amen.

Student

“Talk is cheap.” “It’s only words.” How easily disparaged are the thoughts people communicate to others, often justifiably so. Though I may not say such things about your thoughts and your talk, O Holy Spirit, I have treated them as idle, useless words. Forgive my sins, I pray, and make my heart a sponge that I may absorb all that you have said. Your words are my life. Amen.

Proclaimer

At the end of the day it is you, O Lord, only you. You have made me a servant of Christ. You have entrusted me with your secret things, a trust beyond all measure. Now, I ask you, give me faithfulness. Turn my mind from what others might say. Silence my oft-mistaken conscience. You have forgiven all my failures through Jesus. Fill me with your Spirit that, by him, I might measure up to your righteous judgment in my ministry. Amen.

Evangelist

I have the perfect prognosis for every person in the world, O Jesus: righteousness and salvation through your perfect life, sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection. But you teach me that for people to gain this from the gospel they must accept the their diagnosis of imperfection. I am not comfortable telling people they are not healthy, but are sick and in need of a doctor. Help me see how vital your law is in revealing our common human condition. Give me joy and zeal in applying the balm of the gospel. Amen.

Advocate

Powerful forces confront me when I stand up for your truth, O Lord: misguided human reason; emotional attachments to false prophets; a mocking media; family ties that reject anything that might cause a division. Give me courage and confidence. Cause me to see that the hand raised against your truth will always shrivel in failure, and to trust in your judgment, whether it comes sooner or later. Amen.

Counselor

The depth of depression, and the despair it brings, can never be accurately measured, O Lord—at least not by me. To know that some are so disheartened that they wish they had never been born crushes my heart and fills me with anguish for them. Help me to turn all the needy to you for the comfort and encouragement of soul that only your gracious promises can give. Amen.

Benediction

May your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, may your saints rejoice in your goodness. 2 Chronicles 6:41

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O Lord God, you work out all things for the good of those who love you. Help me always to fear and love you in obedience to your Word. Amen.*

Confession *What has happened to us is a result of our evil deeds and our great guilt, and yet, our God, you have punished us less than our sins have deserved. . . . O LORD, God of Israel, you are righteous! Here we stand before you in our guilt, though because of it not one of us can stand in your presence. Ezra 9:13, 15*

Absolution *God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21*

Psalm 119

Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.
I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.
I have kept my feet from every evil path
so that I might obey your word.
I have not departed from your laws,
for you yourself have taught me.
How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Hymn 598

My Comforter, give pow'r
That I may stand secure
When in temptation's hour
The world and sin allure.
The Son to me revealing,
Inspire my thought and feeling,
His Word of grace to ponder
Nor let me from him wander.
On me your gifts and graces show'r:
My Comforter, give pow'r.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 119c	Ps 51a	Ps 30	Ps 100	Jdg 2:1-12	Ps 133
Hos 4:18-25	Ge 3:8-15	1 Ki 17:17-24	Isa 25:6-9	Heb 13:1-9	Da 5:22-33
Ro 4:18-25	2 Co 4:13-18	Gal 1:11-24	1 Jn 3:13-18	Jn 8:1-11	Jas 2:1-13
Mt 9:9-13	Mk 3:20-35	Lk 7:11-17	Lk 14:16-24	Mt 11:16-24	Jn 7:40-53

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
2 Co 1:24	Pr 8:1-11	Acts 28:23	Jos 6:1-5	Lk 12:49-53	Pr 18:14
LC SoA:83-84	FC V:27	SA II/II:24	Ap VII/VIII:30-31	FC IV:29	LC LP:57
WLS:610	WLS:4720	WLS:2232	WLS:128	WLS:3593	WLS:996
Lk 9:57-62	Ps 27:4	Tit 2:15	Mic 7:14-20	1 Pe 4:12-19	Ne 9:32-37
NiCr:I	LC TC:99	SC Pre:26-27	FC XI:43-44	Ap VII/VIII:22	Ap XII:151-153
WLS:2393	WLS:1670	WLS:4301	WLS:1860	WLS:1508	WLS:4558
Mic 6:9-16	2 Jn 4	Ps 71:14-18	Jn 12:32	Ps 5:4-6	2 Sa 12:1-25
Ap IV:310	FC I:60	Ap XXIV:48	LC Con:26	Ap VII/VIII:2	FC III:30
WLS:4344	WLS:2102	WLS:2391	WLS:3852	WLS:3179	WLS:1454
1 Ch 17:16-20	Lk 8:19-21	Ps 69:30-31	Col 1:3-6	Jer 17:12-18	1 Jn 4:16-18
LC TC:20-21	FC II:54	Ap XXVIII:14	Ap IV:62-63	FC RN:5	LC Cr:17-18
WLS:1365	WLS:4048	WLS:3563	WLS:1464	WLS:4533	WLS:2746

Prayers

Christian

I want to get ahead in life, and this includes my finances. I would like to have more discretionary funds at my present disposal and more certain investments for my future needs. O Lord, keep my feet from crossing the line from planning to worrying, from seeing the value of your gift of money to seeking my security in mammon. I pray especially to restrain my heart from greed, my mind from fraudulent schemes and my hands from stealing. Lead me to find my true riches and security in Christ. Amen.

Student

Dear Jesus, I want to be close to you, and you tell me how. You tell me I can be not only as close as your brother, but even as close as your mother! It all hinges on a simple thing, hearing God's Word and putting it into practice. Give me what I long for and grant me the fellowship more intimate than blood, the fellowship of faith through God's Word. Amen.

Proclaimer

When I start thinking about the people in the Bible whom you chose to proclaim your Word, O Holy Spirit, I feel so inadequate. Sometimes it seems that they knew just what to say and when to say it, and that they never stopped. Turn this around for me. Instead of being discouraged by foolish comparisons, inspire me by their example to trust your power to use even me, with all my weaknesses and failings. Amen.

Evangelist

All people have some concept of you, O gracious Lord, whether a vague idea they inherited from Adam or a well-defined idol they learned of in a mosque or temple. But no one could have guessed your grace. No idol ever was imagined to forgive as you do. You promised and you fulfilled. Who is like you? No one, for you alone are the Savior of the world. Make that the heart of my ministry. Amen.

Advocate

I feel a lot of pressure to ignore false teaching and false teachers. People, even some of those I serve, stand ready to criticize me if I utter a peep about the error and the errorists in other churches. O Holy Spirit, cause me never to be arrogant about the truth you have given me, but make me never reluctant to condemn what you condemn, to hate what you hate, to warn against what you clearly say leads only to destruction. Amen.

Counselor

O Lord, what is more universal than fear? How quickly it rises in human hearts! How easily it overwhelms! How thoughtlessly we allow it to control us! Give me your answer to fear, the promise of your love in Christ. Assure me that I have nothing to fear, not even fear itself, because Jesus was punished for all that could ever make me afraid. Make me a fear-eraser for all the trembling and anxiety ridden who come to me. Amen.

Benediction

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus. Romans 15:5

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O God, protector of all the faithful, you alone make strong; you alone make holy. Show me your mercy and forgive my sins day by day. Direct and guide me through my earthly life that I do not lose the things you have prepared for me in heaven. Amen.*

Confession *Flesh gives birth to flesh.* John 3:6

Absolution *God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.* John 3:16-17

Psalm 100

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.
Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
For the LORD is good
and his love endures forever.

Hymn 188

Creator Spirit, by whose aid
The world's foundations first were laid,
Come, visit ev'ry humble mind;
Come, pour your joys on humankind.
From sin and sorrow set us free;
May we your living temples be.
Giver of grace, descend from high
In answer to our earnest cry.
Help us eternal truths receive
And practice all that we believe.
Give us your wisdom that we see
The glory of the Trinity.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 100	Ps 92	Ps 32	Ps 103	2 Ch 33:9-16	Ps 125
Ex 19:2-8	Eze 17:22-24	2 Sa 11:26-12:10, 13-15	Dt 32:3-12	1 Ti 1:8-17	Isa 4:2-6
Ro 5:6-11	2 Co 5:1-10	Gal 2:11-21	1 Pe 5:6-11	Lk 15:11-32	1 Ti 4:6-11
Mt 9:35-10:8	Mk 4:26-34	Lk 7:36-50	Lk 15:1-10	Mk 10:13-16	Lk 18:15-17

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Ecc 4:7-12	Ro 9:6	Jer 14:13-16	Rev 3:4-5	Nu 1:47-53	Lk 2:29-30
NiCr:2-6	LC Cr:70	LC Cr:43-46	SC Bap:5-8	LC LP:41	Ap XXIV:71-73
WLS:2765	WLS:1162	WLS:3759	WLS:3839	WLS:1254	WLS:4258
Ge 22:1-12	Jn 17:26	Pr 22:12	Ro 1:16-17	Ex 5:19-6:12	Ps 9:9-10
Ap IV:166-168	FC XI:14, 21	LC SoA:43-44	Tr:9	FC IV:36	FC V:9
WLS:4246	WLS:2858	WLS:2929	WLS:4586	WLS:2660	WLS:992
1 The 5:12-13	Ps 119:130-133	Rev 22:16	Lev 16:20-22	Mt 15:1-9	Ps 22:9-11
LC SoA:33-35	Ap IV:48-52	Tr:23-24	AC IV:1-3	SA II/IV:9	LC LP:114-116
WLS:406	WLS:4367	WLS:2390	WLS:498	WLS:4786	WLS:1685
Rev 3:1-3	Ps 119:18-20	Jn 15:26-27	Isa 28:16	Col 2:8	La 5:19-22
Tr:79-82	FC II:80	SC Pre:1-6	FC I:43-44	AC Pre:12-14	Ap IV:57-60
WLS:1774	WLS:638	WLS:4299	WLS:3263	WLS:316	WLS:4330

Prayers

Christian

Dear Father, it is not my half-baked ideas that I confess—though I need to repent of them. It is not my half-hearted listening that I acknowledge—though this too condemns me. I prostrate myself before you for my half-done deeds: my sermons, well-written but poorly delivered; my lessons, well-prepared but poorly taught; my promises, well-made but poorly kept. Give me true repentance and, by my Spirit-changed heart, renew my faithfulness and perseverance. Amen.

Student

Lord Jesus, you turn study on its head. As with all people, I do not always or usually relish it. For me, poring over words can easily lapse into a dry and tasteless exercise. That is why I thank you for what you have done. You have turned Bible study into a spiritual feast for me by revealing yourself and your Father's love in these vowels, consonants and syllables. Fill my heart every time and keep me hungering for more. Amen.

Proclaimer

Why me, O Jesus? What qualifies me to have your Word? I can understand how angels can have it. They have the holiness I lack. But you did not choose me because of my worthiness—I have none. You chose me because I am here—and so are your people. Help me to see my place not just as one who merely has, but mostly as one who shares, your testimony with your church. Amen.

Evangelist

Rock of Zion, precious, true: -- I have put my faith in you.
All who trust are not dismayed -- When their hope on you is stayed.
Sure Foundation, set for each: -- Save them when your grace I teach. Amen.

Advocate

All Christians must war against false teaching, O God, but you have put me on the front line. As you charged the Levites with caring for the tabernacle, you have given me special responsibility for your true and saving Word. Keep me from cowardice or neglect in my calling. Amen.

Counselor

In many ways I am a stranger to those who seek counseling from me. I am not related to them. I did not grow up with them. Some hardly know me, and I hardly know some of them. Few, if any, even call me by my name! But it is not I, nor is it my name that matters. You, O Lord, are the refuge for the oppressed. It is your name that is a stronghold in trouble. Make me confident that, when I proclaim your name, those who seek you will not be forsaken. Amen.

Benediction

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us. Psalm 67:1

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O Lord, my God, give peace to the nations on earth and direct the affairs of this world that your church may worship you in peace and joy. Amen.*

Confession *We have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. . . Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are covered with shame. Daniel 9:5, 7*

Absolution *"Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." Isaiah 1:18*

Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
 Why are you so far from saving me?
 I am a worm and not a man,
 scorned by men and despised by the people.
 All who see me mock me;
 they hurl insults, shaking their heads.
 "He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him.
 Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."
 But you, O LORD, be not far off;
 O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

Hymn 384

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
 My soul, believe and doubt it not.
 Why waver at this word of promise?
 Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
 So then this word must true remain:
 By grace you, too, shall heav'n obtain.
 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
 In Jesus' promise I rejoice.
 For though I know my heart's condition,
 I also know my Savior's voice.
 My heart is glad; all grief has flown
 Since I am saved by grace alone.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 31	Ps 46	Ps 22	Ps 133-134	Isa 12:1-6	Ps 119:1-16
Jer 20:7-13	Job 38:1-11	Zec 13:7-9	Isa 58:6-12	Acts 7:54-8:3	Isa 43:8-12
Ro 5:12-15	2 Co 5:14-21	Gal 3:23-29	Ro 8:18-23	Mt 7:1-6	Acts 6:8-15
Mt 10:24-33	Mk 4:35-41	Lk 9:18-24	Lk 6:36-42	Lk 17:1-10	Mk 11:27-33

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Jn 15:5-8	Pr 25:2	2 Co 7:8-13	Hos 1:10-11	Heb 13:11-14	Ru 1:19-21
AC XXVII:49-55	FC VI:9	FC I:59	LC TC:4	Ap IV:375-377	FC XI:20
WLS:4670	WLS:3736	WLS:2391	WLS:4036	WLS:3355	WLS:1183
Acts 17:24-28	Jos 4:1-7	Lk 19:37-40	Ps 98:1-3	1 Ti 1:3-7	Isa 57:14-21
LC TC:47	Ap XXVIII:18-19	FC XI:25-26	Ap XXVII:13	Ap VII/VIII:22	LC LP:92
WLS:219	WLS:4723	WLS:3571	WLS:8	WLS:4199	WLS:2074
Pr 12:4	Tit 1:9	Jnh 1:1-3	Heb 9:11-15	2 Sa 22:38-46	Mt 8:14-17
FC III:26	FC II:71-72	LC Bap:43	Ap XII:146	FC RN:6	Ap IV:118-119
WLS:2441	WLS:233	WLS:4776	WLS:2543	WLS:1055	WLS:4241
Hos 14:9	2 Pe 1:5-11	2 Ch 29:3-11	Mk 2:1-12	Ps 59:12-13	Ro 12:8-9
Ap II:8	LC TC:98	LC Sh Pre:24-25	SC Cr:5	FC Int:9-10	FC I:30
WLS:3968	WLS:2865	WLS:1327	WLS:3913	WLS:3173	WLS:1430

Prayers

Christian

I feel like such a dead branch, O Jesus. I cannot produce fruit on my own. Keep me joined to you, the living Vine. Let nothing sever me from your saving Word. And through that Spirit-made connection, cause me to bear much fruit as your disciple. Amen.

Student

Being “progressive” can be valuable in some areas of life, O Lord. You do open human eyes to discoveries in medicine, physics and astronomy, for example. But “running ahead” accomplishes nothing in theology. Turn my gaze backwards. Cause me to see the mighty acts and gracious deliverance you have given your people in the past, to remember what you have done, and to focus on what it all means. Make me your theologian, not in the laboratory or by my imagination, but in your Word. Amen.

Proclaimer

Speaking in front of people means anxiety for me, dear Father, no matter what the occasion. I feel like running away. Speaking your Word in front of people makes me even more apprehensive. My heart cries out, “No, not me!” Turn my ears from my heart to your call, to listen as you say, “Yes, it is you!” Give me courage and faithfulness to proclaim your Word where and when you please. Amen.

Evangelist

O Lord, evangelism and mission work cannot be truly evaluated by statistics. Who could ever measure or count your people? What could be more significant than the one soul whom you call your child? By your compassion for the multitudes without a shepherd inspire me to speak. And give me joy in each sinner who repents. Amen.

Advocate

“You’re the only one.” “No one else teaches that.” “Everyone but you accepts this.” As I try to be faithful to the truth, O Spirit, I have been told such things. I have suffered the disgrace of isolation, and, truth be told, I have been somewhat intimidated by it. Now you show me this disgrace is to be expected as you remind me that my Savior died in disgrace, outside the city. Turn my heart from finding its true peace in any earthly association. Lift my eyes above to your enduring city. By these promises enable me to endure any disgrace or isolation that being faithful to your Word might bring me. Amen.

Counselor

The reason for distress is no mystery to me, O Lord. You have taught me well that behind every fearful heart lies sin. The answer for distress is a mystery to many, though. They come to me, crushed and broken, feeling your rage at their iniquity and certain that, because of their wickedness, they will have no peace. But you do not accuse forever, nor will you always be angry. Use me to proclaim peace to those who are near, that your forgiveness may heal their hearts. Amen.

Benediction

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father’s Son, will be with us in truth and love. 2 John 3

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O God, you have prepared more gifts for me than I can desire or deserve. Set my heart on fire with the love you showed me in Christ, that I, loving you above all things, may receive the abundance of your blessings. Amen.*

Confession *My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear. Psalm 38:4*

Absolution *You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you. Psalm 86:5*

Psalm 30

Sing to the LORD, you saints of his;
praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment,
but his favor lasts a lifetime;
weeping may remain for a night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.

To you, O LORD, I called;
to the Lord I cried for mercy.

Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me;
O LORD, be my help.

You turned my wailing into dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.

Hymn 453

“Come, follow me,” the Savior spoke,
“All in my way abiding.
Deny yourselves; the world forsake;
Obey my call and guiding.
Oh, bear the cross, whate’er betide;
Take my example for your guide.
“I teach you how to shun and flee
What harms your souls’ salvation,
Your hearts from ev’ry guile to free,
From sin and its temptation.
I am the refuge of the soul
And lead you to your heav’nly goal.”

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 89	Ps 30	Ps 62	Ps 67	Ex 3:1-15	Ps 116
Jer 28:5-9	La 3:22-33	1 Ki 19:14-21	Jer 1:4-10	Acts 9:1-22	1 Sa 3:1-4:1
Ro 6:1-11	2 Co 8:1-9, 13-14	Gal 5:1, 13-25	1 Pe 3:8-15	Jn 1:43-51	1 Pe 5:1-5
Mt 10:34-42	Mk 5:21-24, 35-43	Lk 9:51-62	Lk 5:1-11	Jn 21:15-29	Lk 10:1-15

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
1 Sa 1:1-8	Mt 16:5-12	Ps 145:3-7	1 Co 1:17	Isa 8:12-17	Heb 3:13-14
LC LP:39	Ap XXIV:3-5	Tr:61-62	Ap XII:30	FC VII:106	LC LP:101-102
WLS:1512	WLS:4643	WLS:2232	WLS:1408	WLS:3595	WLS:1422
Jer 50:6-7	Lk 2:50-52	Ps 34:11	Mt 12:39-42	Pr 28:23	Ne 1:5-11
FC I:5-6	FC XI:62-64	AC VII:1-4	AtCr:26	SA II/IV:15	Ap IV:21
WLS:2786	WLS:196	WLS:3587	WLS:3014	WLS:1163	WLS:3962
Mt 7:7-12	Job 8:8-19	Ro 10:14-15	Isa 52:13-15	Acts 20:22-24	Jdg 2:10-23
Ap IV:301	LC Pre:3-4	FC V:12-13	FC XI:27	Ap XII:123	FC V:11
WLS:4556	WLS:3725	WLS:1832	WLS:3909	WLS:3293	WLS:961
2 Ti 3:12-13	Da 2:20-23	Acts 2:4, 11	Isa 29:19-25	Jn 18:23	Job 3:1-26
LC TC:109-111	FC V:1	FC II:20-21	SA II/I:1-3	LC LP:69-70	AC XXV:1-13
WLS:1439	WLS:4739	WLS:3556	WLS:587	WLS:4498	WLS:3283

Prayers

Christian

What an irony, O Lord! I am supposed to care for your sheep, yet, as one of your sheep, I have often wandered away, over hill and mountain. I have forgotten my true resting place and have put my soul in eternal danger. What a miracle, O Lord! You found me. Keep me always in you, my only true and safe pasture. Amen.

Student

I have been sure so many times in my life, O God, only to be proven wrong. Mulish certainties, woven like a spider's web from my own mind, have been not just my companions, but my bosom buddies. Arrogant confidence has gone before many a fall. Give me a searching heart and an inquiring mind that looks, not in the mirror, but in your Word. Help me to learn the unshakable truths our fathers and mothers found in it. Amen.

Proclaimer

O Holy Spirit, it was a wonder from God for the apostles to speak in other languages, as you enabled them. What a wonder from God it is for me to speak the wonders of God with my tongue in a language which my people can understand. You have filled me with awe at this marvelous gift. Fill me now with power to use the tongue of fire to proclaim your gracious promises. Amen.

Evangelist

More power—do not most ventures in life work better with it? More power in the golf swing, more power in the vacuum cleaner, more power in the weapons of war—it just seems to make sense. But not with your gospel, O Jesus! My heart wants to add my “powerful” words or methodology to it to make it more “effective.” Teach me always to trust the infinite power of the cross. Amen.

Advocate

Human reason has clearly blazed the path to “successful” relationships: to get along, go along. But, Lord, that does not apply when I deal with those who stray from your Word. Grant me always to speak, not with flattering tongue, but with a righteous rebuke, in my continuing bouts with advocates of error. Amen.

Counselor

What a roller coaster some people ride through life, O God! They willfully throw themselves into sin and then feel as if on top of the world. You send them consequences. You remind them that you are displeased and send them hurtling down in terror of your wrath. You hear their cries and deliver them, only to have them turn away and begin the whole scenario anew. Use me to help them to get off, to kill their old Adam through daily contrition and repentance, to live by faith in Christ. Amen.

Benediction

May those who delight in my vindication shout for joy and gladness; may they always say, “The LORD be exalted, who delights in the well-being of his servant.” Psalm 35:27

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *God of all power and might, you are the Giver of all that is good. Help me to love you with all my heart. Strengthen me in my faith. Provide me with all I need, and keep me safe in your care. Amen.*

Confession *Whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God . . . through the law we become conscious of sin. Romans 3:19, 20*

Absolution *The LORD replied, "I have forgiven them, as you asked." Numbers 14:20*

Psalm 66

Praise our God, O peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard.

He has preserved our lives
and kept our feet from slipping.

Come and listen, all you who fear God;
let me tell you what he has done for me.

If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the LORD would not have listened;
but God has surely listened
and heard my voice in prayer.

Hymn 378

All mankind fell in Adam's fall;
One common sin infects us all.
From one to all the curse descends,
And over all God's wrath impends.

But Christ, the second Adam, came
To bear our sin and woe and shame,
To be our life, our light, our way,
Our only hope, our only stay.

As by one man all mankind fell
And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
So by one Man, who took our place,
We all were justified by grace.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soil
Ps 145	Ps 143	Ps 66	Ps 19	Ge 4:3-16	Ps 62
Ex 33:12-23	Eze 2:1-5	Isa 66:10-14	Ge 13:5-11	Ro 6:12-18	Jos 24:14-28
Ro 7:15-25	2 Co 12:7-10	Gal 6:1-10, 14-16	Ro 6:3-11	Mt 18:1-14	1 Ti 5:17-25
Mt 11:25-30	Mk 6:1-6	Lk 10:1-12, 16-20	Mt 5:20-26	Mt 15:1-9	Mk 9:33-37

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Heb 13:16	Dt 4:32-38	Mt 11:7-19	Pr 14:25	2 Co 6:14-7:1	Isa 51:21-23
FC IV:15	FC VII:43	SC Pre:14-16	FC III:12	Ap XII:2-3	Ap IV:285
WLS:2769	WLS:634	WLS:3548	WLS:2988	WLS:1031	WLS:5009
1 Ti 1:12-17	Ps 43:3	1 Pe 4:6	Ge 3:15	Mk 8:34-38	Ps 63:1
AC XXIII:1-9	LC Cr:51-53	Ap XXIV:17-18	LC LP:88-89	FC VIII:61	FC VIII:87
WLS:3924	WLS:3711	WLS:2935	WLS:4029	WLS:1959	WLS:164
Dt 14:22-29	Lk 18:37	Ps 26:2-8	Eph 2:11-13	Jer 50:33-38	Rev 1:9
LC TC:265	FC II:9	Ap IV:120-121	SA III/I:11	FC RN:11-13	LC SoA:23-27
WLS:1310	WLS:4727	WLS:2518	WLS:1154	WLS:4988	WLS:2814
Ps 73:1-28	Jn 5:45-47	Isa 61:1-3	1 Jn 5:13	Ezr 4:1-6	Jn 16:33
SC Cr:1-2	LC Cr:33	AC XXVI:4-7	Ap XV:11	Ap IV:232	Ap IV:149-150
WLS:2384	WLS:1661	WLS:5092	WLS:438	WLS:936	WLS:4232

Prayers

Christian

How much should I give to you, heavenly Father? My sinful heart tells me that I have given my life into your service. It reminds me that I surely could have made more money in secular employment. Deadened that cynical voice, O God, that voice that knows the price of everything and the value of nothing. Let me hear your gracious voice, appreciate the wealth you have put into my hands, and rejoice in the gift of sharing with reverence and generosity. Amen.

Student

My training leads me to analyze and categorize Scripture. Dear Holy Spirit, I have learned not only the books and chapters and verses of your Word. My teachers have instructed me on the prooftexts for doctrines and how to distinguish poetry from prose, figurative from literal. Be my daily Teacher, O Lord, and remind me of the heart of Scripture, that this is the Book of my salvation, centered and fulfilled in Christ. Amen.

Proclaimer

It is not just shades of gray, O God, is it? When it comes to your Word, your proclaimers and their listeners, it is black and white. No one can determine what they want to hear and what they can freely turn a deaf ear to. You alone call the tune. Cause me to be a forceful proclaimer, not a reed swaying in the wind, that your kingdom may forcefully advance through me. Amen.

Evangelist

Only you could set it right, O Lord. Only you could change love to enmity, despair to hope, death to life. Thank you for sending the Seed of the woman to crush the serpent's head, once, for all. O God of peace, continue to crush Satan under my feet through the gospel I share. Amen.

Advocate

What a weakling I am! I have spent my life as your servant fighting the enemies of your Word, and what have I accomplished? Idolatry reigns, false teachers strut, foolish hearts wander in error and unbelief. I can do nothing, but you can everything, O Lord Almighty! Defend the cause of truth. Wield your powerful sword and bring rest to your people. Amen.

Counselor

Trouble seems to find me, O Jesus, or should I say, troubled hearts seem to find me. I guess I ought not be surprised, since in this world all your children will have trouble. Help me to recognize this, and then to remember that in you all your children may have peace because you have overcome the world. You have told me of this peace. Now lead me to use your promises to comfort troubled hearts. Amen.

Benediction

May you be blessed by the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. Psalm 115:15

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O God, you rule over all things in wisdom and kindness. Take away everything that may be harmful and give me whatever is good. Amen.*

Confession *Our offenses are many in your sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities. Isaiah 59:12*

Absolution *Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people. Hebrews 9:28*

Psalm 65

Praise awaits you, O God;
you call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it;
you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water
to provide the people with grain.

You soften it with showers
and bless its crops.

You crown the year with your bounty,
and your carts overflow with abundance.

The grasslands of the desert overflow;
the hills are clothed with gladness.

Hymn 456

Forth in your name, O Lord, I go,
My daily labor to pursue,
Determined only you to know
In all I think or speak or do.

Oh, let me cheerfully fulfill
The task your wisdom has assigned
And do your good and perfect will--
In all my works your presence find!

May I find you at my right hand;
Your eyes see truly what I do.
I labor on at your command
And offer all my works to you.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 65	Ps 78	Ps 25	Ps 146	1 Ki 17:1-16	Ps 90:1-12
Isa 55:10-11	Am 7:10-15	Dt 30:9-14	Ps 107:1-9	Eph 4:29-32	Ge 41:45-47
Ro 8:18-25	Eph 1:3-14	Col 1:1-14	Ro 6:19-23	Mt 18:15-22	Heb 12:12-17
Mt 13:1-9, 18-23	Mk 6:7-13	Lk 10:25-37	Mk 8:1-9	Mt 15:10-20	Mk 7:14-23

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Isa 55:6-9	Rev 19:10	2 Ki 2:1-14	Lk 1:76-79	Ps 140:1-3	Php 1:19-24
Ap XIII:3-5	LC Pre:9	LC Sh Pre:26-27	SC Bap:5-8	SA II/IV:9	FC XI:73-74
WLS:4627	WLS:3708	WLS:2939	WLS:5053	WLS:1973	WLS:427
SS 8:6-7	Eph 2:19-20	Zec 1:5-6	Acts 16:9-10	Dt 6:1-8	Mk 10:46-52
LC Cr:20-21	FC RN:3	Tr:11	Ap IV:62-63	Ap IV:389	SA III/III:36-38
WLS:1317	WLS:3943	WLS:3543	WLS:440	WLS:4765	WLS:2157
2 Pe 2:13-22	Ps 85:8	Mk 10:13-16	Ps 51:1-2	Gal 1:6-10	Heb 10:25
SC LP:17-18	SC TC:5-6	SC Pre:7	Ap IV:53-56	LC LP:67	Ap XXIV:67
WLS:2773	WLS:188	WLS:3597	WLS:1862	WLS:1033	WLS:4219
Mk 12:38-40	Ecc 5:1-3	Col 1:28-2:5	Jer 16:19-21	Rev 16:4-6	1 Sa 1:12-18
Ap XXIV:25-26	FC VI:6	Ap XII:66	AC XX:24-26	FC RN:7	FC II:65-66
WLS:4287	WLS:2141	WLS:870	WLS:4019	WLS:2672	WLS:1277

Prayers

Christian

O Lord, as much as some despise me because I am part of your gospel ministry, others honor me highly as your representative. That honor brings with it a temptation. I could grow (and probably have grown) to love being part of your gospel ministry because of the reverence people have shown to me. Give me a humble heart, a heart that knows, trusts and even feels that all the honor of your gospel ministry belongs to you. Amen.

Student

My desire for certainty takes obtuse, even wicked, turns at times, O Jesus. I find myself looking for signs, special, extraordinary signs. I pray for wisdom to put such thoughts out of my mind. I also pray for protection from miraculous signs, from miraculous signs performed to lead me astray. Keep me from being taken in by false prophets whose powers delude. Sustain me as your true disciple by leading me continually in your Word. Amen.

Proclaimer

I prefer not to contemplate it, but I accept my mortality and how easily this world will go on without me or my “glory.” That is why this ministry of the gospel to which you have called me is so wonderful, O Lord. It brings true, lasting glory, not to me, but to you. I bless your name for making me your servant. I may not last, but the words I speak will bring eternal change to my listeners. Thank you for this ministry. Amen.

Evangelist

I struggle, dear God, with ways of making the gospel sound fresh and inviting. I recoil in horror at the thought of proclaiming forgiveness in a trite, boring or repetitive way. Keep me from doing that, I pray, but also lead me to see that the gospel can never truly be humdrum. Color my thinking, feeling and speaking with the joy, comfort and fervor of your gracious forgiveness in Christ. Amen.

Advocate

You made me a minister of the gospel, O Lord, so it is agonizing to consider that this water of life will be rejected by some and so withdrawn from them. At the same time, you are just in your judgments. Those who oppose your Word will truly get what they deserve. Settle my heart and give me faith to accept your justice. Amen.

Counselor

Dear Jesus, you have conquered death and given all your people the promise of eternal life. By your grace each of us can say, “to die is gain.” Use me to share this comforting truth with those troubled by their fear of death and their uncertainty about heaven. Cause them to see that to be with you is always “better by far.” Amen.

Benediction

The LORD is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. Psalm 84:11

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *Be merciful, O Lord God, and move me always to think and do what is right, that I, who am helpless without you, may live according to your will. Amen.*

Confession *You reject all who stray from your decrees, for their deceitfulness is in vain. All the wicked of the earth you discard like dross. Psalm 119:118-119*

Absolution *This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10*

Psalm 18

The LORD is my rock, my fortress and
my deliverer;
my God is my rock in whom I take refuge
He reached down from on high and
took hold of me.
He rescued me from my powerful enemy.
He brought me out into a spacious place;
he rescued me because he delighted in me.
You, O LORD, keep my lamp burning;
my God turns my darkness into light.

Hymn 541

In these last days of sore distress
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness
That pure we keep, till life is spent,
Your holy Word and sacrament.
The cause is yours, the glory, too,
So hear us, Lord, and keep us true.
Your Word alone is our defense,
The Church's glorious confidence.
Oh, grant that in your holy Word
We here may live and die, dear Lord,
And when our journey's ending here,
Receive us into glory there.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 18	Ps 23	Ps 119a	Ps 1	Jer 23:21-32	Ps 119:49-64
Joel 3:12-16	Jer 23:1-6	Ge 18:1-14	Jer 23:16-24	1 Jn 4:1-6	Ps 119:121-128
Ro 8:26-27	Eph 2:13-22	Col 1:21-29	Ro 8:12-17	Jn 7:14-24	2 Cor 6:14-7:1
Mt 13:24-30, 36-43	Mk 6:30-34	Lk 10:38-42	Mt 7:15-23	Jn 5:30-38	Mt 5:33-37

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Col 3:22-4:1	Pr 3:21-26	Acts 13:32-41	2 Sa 7:11-16	Mt 10:17-20	Ps 116:1-6
LC TC:307-308	FC VIII:53	FC V:24-26	Ap XXI:17-18	FC X:10-13	LC LP:106-108
WLS:1304	WLS:4377	WLS:3561	WLS:556	WLS:4794	WLS:59
Lk 20:45-47	Ps 78:11	1 Co 14:1-5	Zec 3:8-10	3 Jn 9-10	Dt 9:23-29
SC LP:9-11	Ap IV:211	LC Cr:11-12	FC I:45	FC X:16-17	Ap XXVIII:5
WLS:3444	WLS:255	WLS:4138	WLS:2215	WLS:1212	WLS:3746
Zep 3:1-5	1 Jn 5:20	Ex 17:1-7	Jn 1:29	Ps 46:4-7	1 Co 10:11-13
AC XVI:1-2	FC II:6	LC TC:90	AtCr:40	Ap XXI:40	FC IX:3
WLS:3629	WLS:3168	WLS:2628	WLS:3915	WLS:1984	WLS:17
Est 1:10-12	Jn 21:25	Pr 12:17-19	2 Ti 1:8-10	2 Ki 13:14-19	Mt 8:23-27
LC LP:8-9	Ap XII:68-71	SA II/I:5	AC IV:1-3	Ap XII:141	SA III/III:43-45
WLS:708	WLS:4423	WLS:3352	WLS:589	WLS:3594	WLS:2136

Prayers

Christian

I have had several jobs, O Lord, and now I have one calling. I have had several bosses, but always only one Master. Grant me faithfulness, wherever I am, to serve you first, with sincerity of heart and reverence. Keep thoughts, such as, "Nobody's looking, so nobody will know," out of my heart. Help me, whatever I do, to work at it with all my heart, working for you, who saved me. Amen.

Student

What joy is mine, dear Savior, that you remember my sins no more and that you promise that you will not forget me! What danger I face, that I might forget you and what you have done and said! Keep my memory fresh through your Word. Daily remind me of your wonders until I experience them fully in eternity. Amen.

Proclaimer

Bringing water out of a rock for thirsty throats was an awesome miracle for Moses. I suspect that, were I to try it today, it would seem to be only some sort of a garish ruse. Instead, I thank you for making me part of an even more awesome miracle: bringing the water of life for parched souls out of a Book. Amen.

Evangelist

There is so much in my life I have to be ashamed of, so much I have done that I would never dream about ever telling anyone. But I never have to be ashamed to testify about what you have done, O God--for me and to me. You saved me, not because of anything I have done, but in spite of what I have done, solely because of your grace, given and revealed through Jesus my Savior. Make me a faithful witness of this gospel and lead me to be willing to suffer, whatever is necessary, for it. Amen.

Advocate

No woman or man is an island—at least no man or woman whom you call to serve you. Because I cannot help but be around other people, I cannot avoid those who attack your truth and oppose me because I proclaim it. I thank you, Lord, for sparing me the arrests, floggings and persecution that many of my sisters and brothers have had to undergo. I ask you, fulfill your promise to give me what to say, both to friend and foe, when called upon to be your witness. Amen.

Counselor

If I get frustrated with some people, I wonder what you are thinking, dear Father. When I know what their problem is, when I hear them make a commitment to work on it, and then see them give up time after time—it is almost too much for me. Please do not let it be too much for you. Do not destroy your people in their weakness, but strengthen them by your grace and power. Amen.

Benediction

For surely, O LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.
Psalm 5:12

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *Listen, O Lord God, to my prayer as I earnestly call to you. Teach me always to ask for what pleases you that my prayers may always be granted. Amen.*

Confession *Everyone who sins breaks the law. 1 John 3:4*

Absolution *Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people. Hebrews 9:28*

Psalm 119

Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees;
then I will keep them to the end.
Direct me in the path of your commands,
for there I find delight.
Turn my heart toward your statutes
and not toward selfish gain.
Turn my eyes away from worthless things;
preserve my life according to your Word.
Fulfill your promise to your servant,
so that you may be feared.
How I long for your precepts!
Preserve my life in your righteousness.

Hymn 349

Jesus, priceless Treasure, fount of purest pleasure,
Truest Friend to me.
Ah, how long in anguish shall my spirit languish,
Yearning, Lord, for thee?
Thou art mine, O Lamb divine!
I will suffer naught to hide thee,
Naught I ask beside thee.
In thine arms I rest me; Foes who would molest me
Cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, ev'ry heart be quaking,
Jesus calms my fear.
Lightnings flash and thunders crash;
Yet, tho' sin and hell assail me,
Jesus will not fail me.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 119b	Ps 84	Ps 6	Ps 92	Ex 32:1-14	Ps 12
1 Ki 3:5-12	Ex 24:3-11	Ge 18:20-32	Ge 39:1-6	1 Ti 6:6-10	Jos 4:1-18
Ro 8:28-30	Eph 4:1-7, 11-16	Col 2:6-15	1 Co 10:6-13	Mk 12:38-44	1 Co 10:29-11:1
Mt 13:44-52	Jn 6:1-15	Lk 11:1-13	Lk 16:1-9	Mk 5:39-47	Lk 5:17-26

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Pr 31:10-31 Tr:79-82 WLS:2118	1 Co 2:10-16 Ap IV:280 WLS:113	Jer 26:1-9 AC XIV WLS:3577	Heb 9:22 SA III/IV WLS:2684	Jos 10:7-15 Ap XV:18-21 WLS:843	Lk 9:37-43 Ap XI:6-8 WLS:4763
Ge 39:1-10 Ap XVI:9-12 WLS:4079	Lk 19:48 FC II:5 WLS:2978	Ps 134:1-3 FC V:14 WLS:2922	2 Co 5:14 AtCr:27-28 WLS:4872	Hos 9:7-9 LC LP:69-70 WLS:3517	1 Pe 5:10-11 FC XI:9-10 WLS:1029
Eph 6:9 LC TC:265 WLS:670	Ps 73:15-17 LC Cr:70 WLS:4399	2 Pe 1:16-21 FC XI:75 WLS:2982	Dt 7:7-11 LC Cr:38-39 WLS:467	Lk 6:22-23, 26 FC II:8 WLS:4510	Pr 12:25 SC Con:29 WLS:2925
Jas 5:13-18 FC III:23 WLS:1753	2 Ch 20:20 FC VI:20 WLS:1211	Jn 4:34-38 LC TC:84 WLS:5069	Ps 72:8-14 Ap IV:110 WLS:3839	Php 3:17-4:1 Tr:41 WLS:1159	Isa 50:4 Ap IV:303 WLS:5037

Prayers

Christian

Stand in front of me and behind me, O Holy Spirit, to keep me from sinning. Keep me from temptation by blocking me from opportunities to sin. Hold me up when immoral impulses and suggestions confront my soul. Strengthen my faith in Jesus that I might do no wicked thing and sin against God. Amen.

Student

I am fearfully and wonderfully made, with a mind and reason that I certainly have not made full use of. But there are questions no amount of my thinking can answer, truths too oppressive for my understanding. Lead me, O God, to your sanctuary regularly. Cause me to find there your revelation beyond and above all reason. Amen.

Proclaimer

There is no “I” in team. Keep me from seeing a “me” in it either. As you gather your harvest through the proclamation of your Word, O Spirit, use me as you will. If it is as a sower, give me patience. If it is as a reaper, give me humility. Make me always to see that I am not the sole worker in your harvest, but a soul worker among soul workers. Amen.

Evangelist

I, along with the rest of humanity, spend my life trying to avoid blood. Parents put bandages on cuts. Surgeons cauterize vessels. Leaders make treaties to end the bloodshed of war. How utterly strange it is then, O Lord, that I should praise you for blood, for not putting a tourniquet on your Son. What power there is in the lifeblood that flowed from him, the only power in the world to forgive sins! Make me a messenger of hope by making me a messenger of blood. Amen.

Advocate

People have probably thought worse things about me than what they have said—and they have said bad enough—because I am your servant and have spoken your Word. But if I am considered a fool or a maniac, there is no better fool to be than yours, O Lord. Deafen my ears to malicious talk and open them to what you call me: a watchman for your people. Amen.

Counselor

You have made our bodies strong, O Spirit of life. We can bear cumbersome loads with our backs, shoulders and arms. But we falter and stumble when anxiety weighs down our hearts. What can alleviate the stone of doubt, despair, uncertainty or guilt that threatens to crush us? Put your kind words on my tongue and in my mouth, your kind words of grace and hope and assurance and forgiveness in Christ, and, by these words, use me to cheer anxious hearts. Amen.

Benediction

May the LORD answer you when you are in distress; may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.
Psalm 20:1

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O God, you reveal your power in showing mercy and withholding judgment. Come with your kindness and love. Give me strength to obey you that I may share in the joys of heaven. Amen.*

Confession *I have sinned against the LORD. 2 Samuel 12:13*

Absolution *When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions. Psalm 65:3*

Psalm 42-43

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
Where can I go and meet with God?
Why are you downcast, O my soul?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.
Send forth your light and your truth,
let them guide me; let them bring me
to the place where you dwell.
Then will I go to the altar of God,
my joy and my delight.
I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.

Hymn 484

Brothers, sisters, let us gladly
Give to God our all, our best --
Service hearty, thorough, honest,
With a living love impressed.
All our duty, all our striving, all our time to him belong;
Praise him, then, with true devotion;
Come before him with a song.
Gracious Lord, accept our service
For the sake of Christ, your Son;
Lo, our hope abides now only
In the righteousness he won.
Bless and save us; help and guide us;
Watch to comfort and restore
Till in heav'n we rest rejoicing,
Praising you forevermore.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 42-43	Ps 145	Ps 34	Ps 51a	Dt 4:23-31	Ps 5
Isa 55:1-5	Ex 16:2-15	Ecc 1:2; 2:18-26	Da 9:15-18	Acts 4:8-20	Eze 33:30-33
Ro 8:35-39	Eph 4:17-24	Col 3:1-11	1 Co 12:1-11	Mt 21:33-46	Heb 5:11-6:10
Mt 14:13-21	Jn 6:24-35	Lk 12:13-21	Lk 19:41-48	Mt 21:12-22	Lk 20:9-19

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Jn 19:25-27	Pr 19:20	2 Ti 1:11-12	Joel 2:12-17	Jude 22-23	2 Ch 16:7-9
Ap XXIII:61	FC XI:14, 17	Ap XII:66	AC XII:1-6	FC XI:50	FC 1:30
WLS:4058	WLS:4277	WLS:362	WLS:5051	WLS:1934	WLS:1419
1 Pe 3:8-17	Dt 6:10-19	Lk 10:16	Ps 57:9-11	1 Co 5:1-8	Jer 8:21-9:1
LC TC:134-36	LC Con:32-33	Ap XII:53-54	Ap XV:11	Ap XII:83-84	LC LP:104
WLS:987	WLS:4732	WLS:3560	WLS:1353	WLS:4535	WLS:2338
Job 14:1-6	Lk 24:32	Eze 3:16-21	1 Pe 1:3-9	1 Sa 14:6-7	Mt 15:21-28
FC 1:46-47	FC II:52-53	AC XXVIII:5-12	Ap XXIV:22-24	SC LP:3-5	Ap IV:43-47
WLS:2959	WLS:1352	WLS:3583	WLS:2122	WLS:605	WLS:3872
Am 5:18-24	Heb 4:12	Jos 3:7-17	Mk 5:18-20	Pr 23:17	2 Ti 4:6-8
AC II:1-2	LC Bap:41-42	FC XI:29	FC XI:14-15	FC RN:15-16	FC IV:31-32
WLS:3956	WLS:1955	WLS:1394	WLS:3908	WLS:3171	WLS:1089

Prayers

Christian

The clock is ticking, O Lord. You have decreed the number of my months (and weeks and days and hours). I cannot exceed the limits you have set. As I ponder this, give me faith, strength and wisdom to use this time to serve you here. Amen.

Student

I stagger in awe at the power of your Word. Cause me not to draw back as it penetrates even to divide my soul and spirit. Let me be undeterred when it judges the thoughts and attitudes of my heart. Rather, give me confidence in your grace to use it regularly. Amen.

Proclaimer

Have I ever blushed to tell someone that you appointed me as a herald of the gospel? Probably. Have I ever needed to? Never! O Spirit of the Word, give me faith in your promises, confidence in your power and boldness in your calling. Amen.

Evangelist

I have been schooled in mathematics, O Savior, but I cannot measure the height, breadth and depth of your love. It reaches beyond the farthest corners of outer space and down to each person on earth. As my spirit soars in wonder at your grace, cause my lips so to share it. Then you will be exalted in more and more hearts and glorified over all the earth. Amen.

Advocate

Democracy has many virtues to recommend it. It may even be the best form of earthly government. But there is at least one place where "majority rules" is always out of place, O Lord: around your Word. Your truth stands and saves, whether accepted by many or by few. Bind my heart and soul to its truth, whether I stand shoulder to shoulder with others or all alone. Amen.

Counselor

Counseling the dying challenges me as much as, if not more than, any other aspect of my ministry. I dread the horrid wrenching apart of body and soul, the traumatic sundering that Adam's fall has fated us to. Counseling the dying gives me the opportunity to say the easiest words I could ever speak. I love to be able to point a heart to you, O Jesus, and to the crown of righteousness you give to those who finish their race. Give me balance in this work, O Lord. Do not let me take death lightly, but do cause me to see that you have taken away its sting. Then lead me to comfort those time for departure is near with your good news. Amen.

Benediction

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:20-21

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *Almighty God, you are always more ready to hear than I am to pray. In your mercy forgive the sins that make my conscience afraid and give me the blessings I do not deserve. Amen.*

Confession *Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways. Psalm 25:7*

Absolution *The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Exodus 34:6-7*

Psalm 34

The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him,
and he delivers them.

Taste and see that the LORD is good;
blessed are they who take refuge in him.

The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous
and his ears are attentive to their cry.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

The LORD redeems his servants;
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

Hymn 472

Rise, my soul, to watch and pray;
From your sleep awaken!
Be not by the evil day unawares o'ertaken.
For the foe, well we know,
Is a harvest reaping
While the saints are sleeping.

Watch! Let not the wicked world
With its lies defeat you
Lest with bold deceptions hurled
It betray and cheat you.
Watch and see lest there be
Faithless friends to charm you
Who but seek to harm you.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 73	Ps 34	Ps 33	Ps 6	Mic 2:7-13	Ps 103:1-14
1 Ki 19:9-18	1 Ki 19:3-8	Ge 15:1-6	2 Sa 12:1-13	2 Ti 4:1-8	Nu 9:15-23
Ro 9:1-5	Eph 4:30-5:2	Heb 11:1-3, 8-16	1 Co 15:1-10	Mk 2:13-17	Jas 4:7-17
Mt 14:22-33	Jn 6:41-51	Lk 12:32-40	Lk 18:9-14	Jn 9:1-7	Mk 11:20-26

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
2 Sa 9:1-8	Jn 3:1-2	Ps 49:3	Tit 2:11	Jer 23:9-14	Acts 3:16
LC Cr:16	LC Pre:19-20	Tr:23	Ap XII:146	LC LP:67	LC Bap:77-79
WLS:725	WLS:4222	WLS:2985	WLS:559	WLS:5029	WLS:28
Zec 3:3-7	2 Pe 3:14-18	Nu 27:12-23	Mt 26:49-50	Ps 74:4-9, 22-23	Ro 8:5-11
FC VI:7-8	SA II/III:1	SC Pre:1-6	AC V:1-4	FC XI:94-96	Ap IV:301-302
WLS:2761	WLS:189	WLS:4719	WLS:2862	WLS:918	WLS:4163
Mt 5:13-16	Ps 119:125	2 Co 3:13-15	Eze 37:1-14	1 Jn 2:18-23	Ge 8:20-22
Ap XIII:14-15	Ap XXI:36-37	Ap XXVIII:20	FC V:22	SA III/XV:3	FC XI:11
WLS:5071	WLS:3289	WLS:363	WLS:4588	WLS:2714	WLS:952
Gal 5:5-6	Ps 143:5	Acts 8:30-35	Ex 32:1-14	Jn 6:66-69	Ps 27:7-10
SC LP:9-11	FC VII:96	Ap IV:66-67	SA III/III:1-6	Ap VII/VIII:9	LC TC:155-157
WLS:685	WLS:4721	WLS:3567	WLS:1350	WLS:3729	WLS:2744

Prayers

Christian

My mind cannot grasp your arithmetic, O Lord, but the faith you have given me can. You subtract where I would add, and add where I would subtract. You take away my sins, which multiply. You count my love, expressed through faith, which I know is tainted. It may not be my math, but I praise you for making your math my righteousness and my salvation. Amen.

Student

O Jesus, I come to you in darkness and you enlighten my soul. It matters not what ideas I have accepted before. Your Word has the power to convince me of its truth. You have proven its reliability by your miraculous resurrection. Do not turn me away because of my questions, which regularly betray my foolishness and lack of comprehension. Use your Spirit-filled Word to open my mind to understand and my heart to trust. Amen.

Proclaimer

The gift of leadership remains an enigmatic concept to me. Some who seem to have it wind up unable to lead a one-man parade. Others who look like classic followers rise up to grab the guidon and march forward. I question how much of the gift of leadership I have, O Lord. But I do not doubt my responsibility to lead. You have called me. You had others lay hands on me. No matter how I see myself, you see me as a shepherd of your sheep. Make me a faithful one. Amen.

Evangelist

I have the power to raise the dead! I have the power, not just to revive the near-dead with spiritual CPR, but to give life to decayed, dry, dead bones! You have given me this power, O Spirit of the Lord, by giving me the gospel of Christ to proclaim. Do not let me claim this power as mine, however. Make me always to see that it is you, O Spirit of life, who works through the words I speak. At the same time, give me confidence to trust that when I speak the gospel, you are at work. Amen.

Advocate

Of all the terms used to describe a person I can hardly think of a worse one than “former disciple of Jesus.” And, to my horror, I have felt the pull in that direction, to forsake you and join the throng that exists without you. But you have not, and will not, let that happen, O Jesus. You have kept me close to you through your words of life. Where else could I possibly go? Cause me to treasure, proclaim and guard those words as your faithful disciple. Amen.

Counselor

Healing is not found in a bottle of pills. It does not result from a surgeon’s skill. A counselor’s demeanor and compassion can never create it. O Jesus, only your name can truly give it. Permeate the words I speak to wounded hearts with your saving name and by that name give complete healing. Make the weak strong and the faltering steadfast, by the faith that comes from you. Amen.

Benediction

You have given me the heritage of those who fear your name. Psalm 61:5

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *Almighty and merciful God, you have been good to me and given me the desire to serve you. Help me live according to your will that I may gain the joys you have prepared for me in heaven. Amen.*

Confession *I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. . . What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Romans 7:21, 24*

Absolution *Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions. Ephesians 2:4-5*

Psalm 139

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me.
 You perceive my thoughts from afar.
 You discern my going out and my lying down;
 you are familiar with all my ways.
 Where can I go from your Spirit?
 Where can I flee from your presence?
 If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
 if I settle on the far side of the sea,
 even there your hand will guide me,
 your right hand will hold me fast.

Hymn 413

When in the hour of utmost need
 We know not where to look for aid,
 When days and nights of anxious thought
 Nor help nor counsel yet have brought,
 Then is our comfort this alone
 That we may meet before your throne;
 To you, O faithful God, we cry
 For rescue in our misery.
 For you have promised, Lord, to heed
 Your children's cries in time of need
 Through him whose name alone is great,
 Our Savior and our advocate.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soil
Ps 133-134	Ps 1	Ps 139a	Ps 34	Ex 34:29-35	Ps 70
Isa 56:1, 6-8	Pr 9:1-6	Jer 23:23-29	Mic 7:18-20	2 Co 3:12-18	Dt 30:11-20
Ro 11:13-15, 28-32	Eph 5:15-20	Heb 12:1-13	2 Co 3:4-11	Mt 9:27-34	Ro 9:30-10:8
Mt 15:21-28	Jn 6:51-58	Lk 12:49-53	Mk 7:31-37	Jn 9:24-41	Mt 19:1-12

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
1 Jn 2:3-6	1 Ki 3:1-15	Jn 18:37	Pr 29:25	Gal 5:7-12	Isa 59:9-12
SC Con:15-20	FC XI:52-53	LC Bap:43	FC XI:28	Ap XXIII:5	Ap XII:102-109
WLS:2146	WLS:167	WLS:4750	WLS:2337	WLS:267	WLS:4475
Php 2:14-16	Jer 10:21	Lk 7:31-35	Isa 56:3-8	Mt 7:15-23	Job 7:1-21
Ap XXVII:41-42	LC Pre:5-8	LC SoA:85-87	LC Bap:35-36	Ap XX:4-8	FC XI:45-47
WLS:4265	WLS:3830	WLS:1411	WLS:4027	WLS:3178	WLS:33
Ru 4:13-17	Mk 8:15	Ecc 9:17-18	Gal 2:21	Am 7:10-17	Ps 118:13-16
LC Bap:74-76	FC II:67	Tr:10	SC Bap:5-8	FC VII:2	LC SoA:71-74
WLS:627	WLS:4388	WLS:2618	WLS:1551	WLS:3808	WLS:3114
Pr 5:1-20	Php 1:9-11	Isa 6:1-8	Rev 14:6-7	2 Ch 11:13-17	Jn 11:4
Ap IV:349-350	Ap IV:265-266	SC Pre:14-16	Ap IV:187	FC III:6	Ap XII:64
WLS:2550	WLS:1664	WLS:3587	WLS:1871	WLS:1036	WLS:3856

Prayers

Christian

“You can tell a lot about a person by what he says and does.” How obvious –almost to the point of not even needing to be said! Who does not understand that!? O Lord, sometimes I do not, at least I act like I do not. I have to confess that the faith you have given me is not always evident in what I say and do. I do not look like I know you when I do not obey your commands. Give me your Holy Spirit and make your love complete in me as I walk as Jesus did. Amen.

Student

I am terrified by the thought that to be stupid I need do nothing. Actually, you tell me, O Spirit, that doing nothing will make me stupid, in a spiritual sense. All I have to do is to neglect your Word and to fail to inquire of you, and I will be a senseless, stupid shepherd with scattered sheep. Please do not let that happen to me! Drive me into the Bible. Nourish, enlighten and renew my mind and heart there, for my sake and for the sake of your flock. Amen.

Proclaimer

The legendary preacher’s memo, “Point weak–speak loudly,” is one that I have unwittingly (and, yes, wittingly) applied to my own proclamation of your Word. I need your reminder that it is not the power of the voice with the Word, but the power of the Word in the voice. Make my words wise, O Lord, wise in your wisdom. Amen.

Evangelist

I do not believe, as so many wrongly do, that death somehow will turn me into an angel. I do believe that you have made me an “angel,” your messenger, while I am alive. Fly me where you want me to go. O Lord, open my lips to proclaim the eternal gospel to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. Amen.

Advocate

Being your child is a real balancing act, O God. I know I must, in love, yield all that delights my heart for the sake of your church. At the same time, I dare yield nothing at the expense of your Word. While the two will never be in conflict, my heart and mind do not always keep them straight. Preserve my confidence in this sure promise of yours and guide me in love and faithfulness. Amen.

Counselor

What a restless and anxious life sin has made my earthly destiny! Hard service, miserable nights, days that pass swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, only to end without hope. And, all the while, I pass under your unrelenting gaze. Keep me from finding my final destiny in that description of life. Make me a counselor who lifts eyes heavenward, where true hope lies in your gracious promises. Amen.

Benediction

The God of peace be with you all. Amen. Romans 15:33

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *Almighty and eternal God, increase my faith, my hope, and my love. Teach me to treasure your Word that I may obtain everything you have promised. Amen.*

Confession *If a person sins and does what is forbidden in any of the LORD's commands, even though he does not know it, he is guilty and will be held responsible. Leviticus 5:17*

Absolution *He had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Hebrews 2:17*

Psalm 133-134

How good and pleasant it is
when brothers live together in unity!
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,
even life forevermore.

Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD
who minister by night in the house of the LORD.

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary
and praise the LORD.

May the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth,
bless you from Zion.

Hymn 536

Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's head,
You are her one foundation.
In you she trusts, before you bows,
And waits for your salvation.
Built on this rock secure,
Your Church shall endure
Though all the world decay
And all things pass away.
Oh, hear, oh, hear us, Jesus!

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 34	Ps 71	Ps 72	Ps 133-134	Ex 20:18-24	Ps 30
Ex 6:2-8	Jos 24:1-2, 14-18	Isa 66:18-24	Lev 19:9-18	Jas 1:2-12	Pr 2:1-8
Ro 11:33-36	Eph 5:21-31	Heb 12:18-24	Gal 3:15-22	Jn 7:25-31	Ro 2:11-16
Mt 16:13-20	Jn 6:60-69	Lk 13:22-30	Lk 10:23-37	Mk 12:28-37	Lk 20:41-44

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
La 4:1-10	Jas 1:5	1 Ch 6:31-32	Lk 17:20-21	Job 32:1-22	2 Th 1:5-12
Ap IV:242-243	Ap IV:229-230	FC V:12-13	SA III/XIII:1	FC RN:17-18	FC II:65-66
WLS:4965	WLS:1962	WLS:2928	WLS:4634	WLS:3302	WLS:951
Ps 15:1-5	1 Th 2:13	Am 8:11-12	Acts 26:15-18	Ge 35:1-5	Mk 7:24-30
LC TC:233	FC II:15	FC II:20-21	Ap IV:110	Tr:41	LC Bap:56
WLS:1292	WLS:4363	WLS:3559	WLS:449	WLS:4781	WLS:2156
Rev 22:3-5	Ps 119:169-170	Mt 13:1-23	Ps 18:49	2 Ti 2:23-26	Mic 7:8-10
SA III/III:30-32	LC TC:100-102	LC SoA:31-32	Ap IV:172	Ap XXIV:16	Ap IV:204-205
WLS:2893	WLS:187	WLS:3616	WLS:2210	WLS:1213	WLS:4190
Mk 6:1-6	Ps 50:16-17	1 Th 1:3-10	Isa 62:1-2	Rev 3:8-10	1 Ki 19:1-18
LC TC:73-77	FC XI:12-13	LC LP:54	AtCr:40	LC TC:54	FC VII:69-71
WLS:4886	WLS:2248	WLS:333	WLS:4224	WLS:1957	WLS:1259

Prayers

Christian

Dear God, your law condemns me. I, who handle and hand out your holy Word, have unclean hands. Forgiven by your gospel, your law now guides me. Cause me to walk blamelessly. Help me to speak the truth, to keep my word, even when it hurts, to do no wrong to my neighbor, and to honor all who fear you. Amen.

Student

“It’s all a matter of interpretation” -- so the saying goes, mindlessly and faithlessly repeated by many a sinful heart, to deny the truths of your Word. I have to tell you, God, that it strikes a responsive chord in me also when I cannot grasp what you mean to tell me. So I pray, give me understanding according to your Word. As I study, govern my thinking by your holy will. Finally, all that matters is your interpretation. Amen.

Proclaimer

You give me a limitless call--and limited time and abilities. You tell me to proclaim your Word to every creature. Then comes the realization that I cannot possibly be in all places at once, and the days of my years are threescore and ten. Yet I do not give up, for you give the unlimited power of your Word and the unlimited means to reach others. You make me like the clanger in a bell. As I proclaim to your flock under my care, the sound of your Word rings out from them. Make me to see my role in your kingdom and to treasure this privilege. Amen.

Evangelist

O Holy Spirit, I would love to see a progress report. My report cards told me how well I did in school. But how well am I doing as an evangelist? I would really like to see and know exactly whom you make part of your kingdom through my gospel ministry. It would also be nice to know exactly when it happens. Make me content to accept your will, that your kingdom does not come visibly, that it is a matter of faith, unseen by human eyes. Lead me to measure my progress not by your invisible results, but by my visible and active witnessing. Amen.

Advocate

You are not very tolerant, O God--and I do not mean that as a criticism. In fact, you are absolutely intolerant of many things, including false teaching. You insist that your people hold only to the truth. Give me the shovel of faith and understanding to bury every counterfeit notion that my sinful heart generates. Enable me to equip your saints with the same. Amen.

Counselor

The proverb reminds me not “to beat a dead horse,” and I pretty much accept that as true. Wounded horses, though, those are horses of a different color. Evil hearts see them as weak and vulnerable, fair game for gloating and scorn. Give me a different heart. When the fallen turn to me, when those in darkness strain their eyes for a glimmer of light, use my words, O Counselor, to raise them up, to bring them into the light of your love, your righteousness, your deliverance. Amen.

Benediction

Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance. Jude 2

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O Lord Jesus, preserve me as part of the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Come to me in my weakness. Help me to avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide me in the way that leads to my salvation. Amen.*

Confession *In all that has happened to us, you have been just; you have acted faithfully, while we did wrong. Nehemiah 9:33*

Absolution *The LORD our God is merciful and forgiving. Daniel 9:9*

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills--
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot slip--
he who watches over you will not slumber.
The LORD watches over you--
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
The LORD will keep you from all harm--
he will watch over your life;
The LORD will watch over your coming and
going both now and forevermore.

Hymn 524

O Fount of good, for all your love
Our true thanks should be paid.
What can we render, Lord, to you,
When you own all that's made?
But you have needy brothers here,
Partakers of your grace,
Whose names you will yourself confess
Before the Father's face.
Your face with rev'rence and with love
We in the poor will view,
And, while we minister to them,
We do it as to you.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 121	Ps 119c	Ps 119a	Ps 116	Nu 21:4-9	Ps 49:5-15
Jer 15:15-21	Dt 4:1-2, 6-8	Pr 25:6-7	Dt 8:10-18	Ro 7:14-25	Nu 12:1-15
Ro 12:1-8	Eph 6:10-20	Heb 13:1-8	Gal 5:16-24	Lk 7:36-50	Jas 3:6-18
Mt 16:21-26	Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Lk 14:1, 7-14	Lk 17:11-19	Mt 12:9-21	Lk 6:6-11

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
1 Co 7:1-9	Ps 5:7	Acts 15:32	Ge 11:1-9	Lk 21:12-19	Ps 68:19-20
LC Sh Pre:1-6	SA II/III:1	Ap IV:66-67	Ap IV:53-56	AC XXIII:24	AC XX:15-22
WLS:1311	WLS:4746	WLS:3555	WLS:736	WLS:4414	WLS:3250
Lk 1:24-25	Pr 3:13-18	Eph 3:7-12	Ob 15-21	Acts 5:27-32	Ex 15:11-18
FC III:10	FC II:46	AC XXVI:4-17	FC XI:14, 18	FC RN:5	Ap XII:51-52
WLS:3105	WLS:234	WLS:5093	WLS:1682	WLS:761	WLS:3745
Eze 18:19-20	Jn 20:30-31	1 Sa 3:1-14	Jn 12:17-19	Ps 16:4	2 Sa 15:25-26
Ap XXVII:27	Ap IV:297	FC XI:14, 16	Tr:31	FC VIII:61	FC II:17
WLS:3980	WLS:2330	WLS:2901	WLS:4021	WLS:2104	WLS:1169
Jdg 4:1-10	Lk 10:21-24	Ps 35:28	Col 4:3-4	Isa 54:16-17	Heb 5:7-10
FC IV:19-20	FC XI:33	FC II:50-51	LC Bap:32-34	Ap XXI:44	LC LP:10-11
WLS:1171	WLS:4372	WLS:2513	WLS:566	WLS:3842	WLS:1930

Prayers

Christian

Heavenly Father, you have given me something you have given to no one else: my soul. I may have my mother's eyes, my father's nose, hair color like my brothers or sisters, but only I have my soul. No one else can sin for me. No one else can believe for me. Give me my own true repentance. Keep me from blaming others for my wickedness, as though that would lessen my guilt. Never let me depend on the faith of others, as though that would make me your child. Grant me always to believe that only your Son has shared my guilt, and only he can give me his righteousness to be my own. Amen.

Student

When it comes to the Father's revelation, O Jesus, you are most assuredly pro-choice. His revelation is not natural nor universal. It comes only to those to whom you have chosen to give it. And you have chosen me! I am not worthy to receive it, but I ask you to make me worthy as I pursue it and as I trust in it. Amen.

Proclaimer

I may not be a "prophet" in every Biblical sense of the word, but you have called me to the public ministry, O Holy Spirit. People see me as one who has your Word. Do not let me be satisfied with that. A prophet by definition also speaks. Open my mouth to say what you have revealed to me in the Bible. Bless the words I speak to strengthen and encourage my flock. Amen.

Evangelist

Your day, O Lord, and the coming of your kingdom mean division and separation. They are for all nations, but not all will enjoy the blessings you bring. I look forward to the coming of your eternal kingdom of glory and I thank you for giving me this hope by making me part of your kingdom of grace. Use me now, I pray, to share your love in Christ so that many more will receive the inheritance of Jacob and the deliverance you promise on Mt. Zion. Amen.

Advocate

"Mob psychology" threatens me, O Spirit. As the vast earthly throng runs after other gods and other teachings, I want to fit in, to be accepted, to be part of the group. Grab me by the scruff of my neck and pull me away with your warning that false gods and false doctrines only increase sorrows. Renew my heart with your promises of salvation, truth and righteousness to trust only your name and keep your Word always. Amen.

Counselor

Sorrow and trouble have their purpose, do they not, O Jesus? When they entered your life, you offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to your heavenly Father. You learned obedience through your suffering. Now you stand on the other side, the source of salvation for all in trouble. Use me to turn distressed hearts to you, the one who knows their pain and has the power to help. Amen.

Benediction

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands. Psalm 90:17

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *Show your mercy, O Lord Jesus, and cleanse and protect me as part of your congregation of believers. Lead and direct me day after day, for without you I cannot survive. Amen.*

Confession *Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Hebrews 4:13*

Absolution *All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. Acts 10:43*

Psalm 62

My soul finds rest in God alone;
my salvation comes from him.
He alone is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.
My salvation and my honor depend on God;
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.
Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge.
Though your riches increase,
do not set your heart on them.

Hymn 304

Jesus sinners does receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve --
Jesus sinners does receive.
Oh, how blest is it to know,
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By your blood and bitter passion,
For these words I do believe --
Jesus sinners does receive.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 51a	Ps 146	Ps 19	Ps 62	1 Ki 18:21-40	Ps 50:7-23
Eze 33:7-11	Isa 35:4-7	Pr 9:8-12	1 Ki 17:8-16	2 Co 9:6-11	Ps 37:12-24
Ro 13:1-10	Jas 1:17-27	Phm 1, 10-21	Gal 5:25-6:10	Jn 14:7-14	Ro 3:1-20
Mt 18:15-20	Mk 7:31-37	Lk 14:25-33	Mt 6:24-34	Lk 14:12-15	Mk 9:14-29

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Ecc 7:21-22	Jn 3:31-34	Jer 5:12-14	2 Pe 3:8-9	1 Ki 9:1-9	Lk 17:11-19
FC II:43	FC XI:92-93	SC Pre:7	AtCr:26	SA III/XV:3	Ap XII:158-160
WLS:2829	WLS:114	WLS:3608	WLS:1893	WLS:1237	WLS:4229
Gen 9:20-23	Jn 14:23-24	Ps 138:1-3	Ro 10:1-4	Jer 15:15-21	Rev 14:13
Ap VII/VIII:49-50	Ap XXIV:3-5	Ap IV:5-6	SA III/VII:1-3	Ap XXIII:59	FC I:13-14
WLS:3885	WLS:3658	WLS:1329	WLS:4470	WLS:1963	WLS:981
Tit 1:15-16	Ps 119:148	Jas 5:7-8	1 Ki 8:41-43	Mk 11:15-17	Ps 109:21-26
LC TC:108	FC III:11	Ap XXIV:80	AC XII:1-6	LC SoA:4-7	LC Cr:17-18
WLS:117	WLS:4490	WLS:3564	WLS:1548	WLS:4508	WLS:2666
Acts 10:27-28	Dt 8:10-20	Mk 4:26-29	Ps 65:1-4	2 Co 11:1-6	Isa 38:9-20
Ap XIII:3-5	LC Pre:14-15	AC XIV	Ap XX:1-3	FC VII:28-31	Ap XII:149
WLS:2067	WLS:1658	WLS:3591	WLS:2891	WLS:124	WLS:4324

Prayers

Christian

I do not like to admit it, O Lord. In fact, I am tempted to deny it, but I fool only myself if I say that I have never had a prejudiced or racist thought. It is just so easy to stereotype. Then I do not have to think too hard. I can simply say, "They're all like that." Make your attitude my attitude. You loved all. You want all in heaven. Help me to take each person as an individual, a human being for whom Christ died and rose. Amen.

Student

Studying earthly matters is not a snap, but at least it comes naturally. I belong here. I speak and learn as an earthling. How different is your Word, O Christ! You come from above and you are above all. You come from God and speak his words. You are filled with the Spirit without limit. Give me your Spirit through your Word. Make me spiritual also, so I may understand and accept God's truth. Amen.

Proclaimer

I am not asking for a booming voice. I do not request a refined or limitless vocabulary. O Holy Spirit, my prayer is not for the sounds my lips make, but for how sound I want you to make my heart: bold and stout. You have exalted your name and your Word above all things. Give me a heart that treasures it and that has the courage to speak it, no matter who the audience is. Amen.

Evangelist

O Father of the world, your ear is open to all people. You do not say that you hear all people, but that all who turn to you in faith, all who know and fear your name, will find an answer for their prayer. Make me your kind of universalist: not one who assumes that all are saved, but one who trusts that your name alone saves all. Use me to erect the temple of your name, to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, for the salvation of lost souls. Amen.

Advocate

O God, you are a jealous husband. You hate all unfaithfulness and do not tolerate rivals to your truth. There is only one Jesus, only one gospel, only one faith. Keep me from being led astray from the sincere devotion to Christ which you have given me. Do not let me or the people I serve put up with a different gospel. Instead, fill me and them with your pure knowledge, and keep us bound to it, despite Satan's cunning and deceit. Amen.

Counselor

Desperation is a bit unnerving to me, dear Jesus. When those whose lives seem to have no hope cry out in their gloom, anxiety starts to make me come unhinged. But you are there, to hear and heal. No matter how bleak their outlook, or how hopeless their situation seems, fill me with the confidence to point them to you, for no soul that cries out, "Jesus, Master, have pity on me," is ever turned away by you. Amen.

Benediction

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. 2 Corinthians 1:20

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O Lord God, be gracious to me and surround me with your compassion day and night. Fill my heart with faith and love that I may serve you and all people. Amen.*

Confession *Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Luke 15:18*

Absolution *There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:1-2*

Psalm 126

When the LORD brought back the captives to Zion,
we were like men who dreamed.

The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negev.

Those who sow in tears
will reap with songs of joy.

He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow,
will return with songs of joy,
carrying sheaves with him.

Hymn 518 (TLH)

If thou but suffer God to guide thee
And hope in him thro' all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,
And bear thee thro' the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the Rock that naught can move.

Nor think amid the fiery trial
That God hath cast thee off unheard,
That he whose hopes meet no denial
Must surely be of God preferred.
Time passes and much change doth bring
And sets a bound to everything.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 103	Ps 116	Ps 51a	Ps 126	2 Ki 5:8-19	Ps 34:1-10
Ge 50:15-21	Isa 50:4-10	Ex 32:7-14	1 Ki 17:17-24	1 Jn 3:1-9	2 Ki 4:18-37
Ro 14:5-9	Jas 2:1-5, 8-10, 14-18	1 Ti 1:12-17	Eph 3:13-21	Mt 22:23-33	1 Co 8:1-16
Mt 18:21-35	Mk 8:27-35	Lk 15:1-10	Lk 7:11-17	Lk 20:27-40	Mk 8:22-26

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Jn 13:34-35	Ecc 10:10	1 Co 3:10-15	Zep 3:14-20	2 Jn 1-2	2 Sa 22:28
AC XX:27-34	LC TC:98	LC TC:90	LC Cr:42	FC RN:6	FC IV:31-32
WLS:3982	WLS:4004	WLS:2932	WLS:5055	WLS:2654	WLS:1343
Heb 1:14	Ps 143:8-10	Lk 7:24-26	Ps 117	1 Ti 4:1-5	Jer 31:15-17
LC Bap:28-29	FC II:57-59	SA II/II:5	Ap IV:187	FC Int:9-10	LC SoA:55-60
WLS:1290	WLS:4801	WLS:2037	WLS:739	WLS:3765	WLS:2828
SS 6:4-9	Col 3:1-4	Da 12:1-4	1 Jn 3:16	Dt 13:6-11	Mt 26:36-44
NiCr:2	LC Pre:11-13	SC Pre:26-27	AC V:1-4	Ap XXVIII:22-27	Ap XI:2
WLS:2105	WLS:1667	WLS:3607	WLS:1875	WLS:787	WLS:3740
Hab 2:18-20	Rev 22:10	Dt 32:1-4	Mk 16:15-16	Ps 106:34-39	2 Co 2:5-11
LC TC:187	FC XI:76-77	Ap XIII:10-13	FC III:57	Ap XXIV:44-46	FC XI:6
WLS:4603	WLS:2863	WLS:904	WLS:3916	WLS:3356	WLS:1068

Prayers

Christian

Dear Jesus, you set the bar pretty high, too high for me. You call me as your child to love my brothers and sisters as you have loved me. Who is up to this? I thank you for your self-sacrificing, humble, inclusive love for me. By that love renew my heart and life to live in love for others. Use what you do through me to show the world that I am your disciple. Amen.

Student

Deliver me, O Holy Spirit, deliver me from the easy attitude of heartless familiarity. Lead my heart every day into the newness of your Word and bring me the message of your unfailing love. Keep me from the unholy rut of taking your Word for granted and show me the way I should go. Amen.

Proclaimer

O God of time, you have made me a slave to time. I cannot stop or slow down the hours and days that pass. Give me your Spirit to redeem the time you have given me to proclaim your Word in this world. Give me daily encouragement by the eternal glory you promise to those who make wise, lead to righteousness and increase knowledge in this world of time. Amen.

Evangelist

If I am to be your servant, O Jesus—actually, if I am to be even your child—there are two things I cannot do. I cannot sit still. I cannot shut up. I cannot sit on the good news; I must go into all the world. I cannot be silent about the gospel; I must preach you to all people. Motivate me to get my feet and lips moving, first by the salvation you have given me through faith, and secondly by what such evangelism does for others. Amen.

Advocate

It is not easy, O God. It is not easy to stand up for your truth. Keep my heart from being envious of the simple task of trying to tear down your Word. Fill me with joy and zeal through the faith that your truth brings love, unity and life, now and forever. Amen.

Counselor

My heart aches for your people, dear Lord. When they hurt, I often feel their pain. Calm the tempest that churns in me and use me to bring comfort to others. Help me to give that peace which the world cannot give, that, in every tragedy of this life, all may find solace in your promises. Amen.

Benediction

May your eyes be open to your servant's plea and to the plea of your people Israel, and may you listen to them whenever they cry out to you. 1 Kings 8:52

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *O Lord God, help me resist the devil when he tempts me to do wrong. Create in me a clean heart that will follow the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Confession *When we continued to sin . . . , you were angry. How then can we be saved? All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. Isaiah 64:5-6*

Absolution *My brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Acts 13:38*

Psalm 27

Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;
be merciful to me and answer me.
Do not reject me or forsake me,
O God my Savior.
Though my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will receive me.
I am still confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living
Wait for the LORD;
be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Hymn 421

All depends on our possessing
God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart.
They who trust with faith unshaken
In their God are not forsaken
And e'er keep a dauntless heart.
He who to this day has fed me
And to many joys has led me
Is and ever shall be mine.
He who ever gently schools me,
He who daily guides and rules me,
Will remain my help divine.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 27	Ps 31	Ps 38	Ps 143	I Sa 15:13-26	Ps 92
Isa 55:6-9	Jer 11:18-20	Am 8:4-7	Mic 6:6-8	Acts 6:1-7	Nu 27:12-23
Php 1:18-27	Jas 3:13-18	1 Ti 2:1-8	Eph 4:1-6	Lk 13:10-17	2 Jn 6-11
Mt 20:1-16	Mk 9:30-37	Lk 16:1-13	Lk 14:1-11	Mt 12:1-8	Mk 2:23-28

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Dt 23:21-23	Lk 1:1-4	Ps 73:28	2 Th 2:14	Ex 17:8-16	Jn 17:11
LC TC:130	FC I:8	FC XI:75	Ap XXIV:22-24	Ap XXIV:96	LC SoA:66-70
WLS:71	WLS:4394	WLS:3277	WLS:1424	WLS:4782	WLS:2362
Isa 57:1-2	1 Pe 1:23-25	Nu 22:21-38	Mt 24:14	Pr 15:23	Ro 7:14-20
SC TC:11-12	LC Pre:16	LC Sh Pre:24-25	AtCr:40	LC TC:54	Ap XII:128
WLS:1822	WLS:235	WLS:4904	WLS:1858	WLS:1580	WLS:5005
Mt 4:1-11	Pr 24:3-7	2 Co 2:12-17	Jer 32:37-42	Jude 12-13	2 Ki 18:28-19:7
Ap XXIII:43-44	FC VI:4	LC TC:248-249	Ap IV:345-347	FC X:31	FC I:23
WLS:4121	WLS:3124	WLS:1320	WLS:4051	WLS:2641	WLS:138
2 Co 6:3-10	Ps 19:7-11	Acts 20:7-12	Nu 14:1-9	Mt 10:28-33	Pr 15:13, 15
FC I:43	LC TC:91-92	Tr:11	SC Bap:5-8	SA Pre:5-7	LC LP:33
WLS:1340	WLS:4807	WLS:3550	WLS:1379	WLS:3903	WLS:2144

Prayers

Christian

I miss them, Lord. I miss those people whom I loved whom you have taken away in death. Even as I pray this, it is all I can do to keep my tears from flowing. But they have something better than I now experience. They have entered your eternal peace and have found rest in death. Comfort my heart through the righteousness you gave them and me. Dry my tears by making me understand that you take away the righteous to spare them from evil. Amen.

Student

I have lived in several houses, but I have only one home here on this earth. There can be only one address for my soul, and that is your Word, O God. Lay a foundation for me there by giving me understanding. Raise its walls for me by giving me wisdom. Furnish it with treasures beyond compare by giving me knowledge. When I open the Bible, make me believe, know, and even feel that I am home. Amen.

Proclaimer

Not everyone pays full attention when I speak, O Holy Spirit. Actually, I can usually count on some to drift off, even to fall asleep. Keep me from taking such woolgathering personally. Instead, give me a concern for all weak, weary and weighed down souls. If I need to change my delivery, cause me to see that, and to do that. Do not let inattention to your Word cause any who hear me to fall into spiritual death and be lost. Amen.

Evangelist

I serve as a pawn in your kingdom, O God. My sinful nature hates that idea, but your plan for salvation identifies me as such. I am a pawn—I have no power to convert hearts. I am a pawn—I receive no glory when your kingdom comes. You call sinners to faith. You put your power in the gospel. All glory belongs to you. And yet you deign to use me! Thank you for making me your pawn by giving me the gospel to share. Amen.

Advocate

Repartee and extended debate can be interesting, even fun, O Lord. By them you enliven our earthly existence. But when it comes to your Word, to being an advocate for the truth, help me to see how good a timely word is, how an apt reply can expose error and turn hearts back to your solid foundation. From the treasures you have given me, use me to bring forth gems that crush Satan's lies. Amen.

Counselor

Heavenly Father, when you say, "Choose life!" I know what you mean. True life exists only when the heart beats by faith in your gracious promises in Christ. But so many are tuned into the world, which also cries, "Choose life!" They see life only in terms of earthly things: their families, their jobs, their health, etc. Use me to help them to turn a deaf ear to the world's definition and to open their ears to your promises. Through me cause them to see that true life, all life, both here and hereafter, comes from you and you alone. Amen.

Benediction

Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *Be merciful to me, Lord God, and guide me in all I think and do, for without your help I am unable to please you. Amen.*

Confession *I have sinned greatly in what I have done. Now, O LORD, I beg you, take away the guilt of your servant. 2 Samuel 24:10*

Absolution *If anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2*

Psalm 146

Blessed is he . . . whose hope is in the LORD his God,
the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them--
the LORD, who remains faithful forever.
He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets prisoners free,
the LORD gives sight to the blind,
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.
The LORD watches over the alien
and sustains the fatherless and the widow.

Hymn 306

Before you, God, the Judge of all,
With grief and shame I humbly fall.
I see my sins against you, Lord,
My sins of thought and deed and word.
They press me sore; to you I flee:
O God, be merciful to me!
O Lord, my God, to you I pray:
Oh, cast me not in wrath away!
Let your good Spirit ne'er depart,
But let him draw to you my heart
That truly penitent I be:
O God, be merciful to me!

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 25	Ps 51b	Ps 146	Ps 2	Eze 3:17-21	Ps 138
Eze 18:1-4, 25-32	Nu 11:16, 24-29	Am 6:1-7	Dt 10:12-21	2 Th 3:1-5	Na 1:2-7
Php 2:1-11	Jas 4:7-12	1 Ti 6:6-16	1 Co 1:4-9	Mt 5:1-12	1 Jn 2:24-29
Mt 21:28-32	Mk 9:38-50	Lk 16:19-31	Mt 22:34-46	Mt 6:5-15	Lk 11:1-4

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Jas 4:13-17	2 Sa 22:31	Jn 10:1-5	Job 16:18-21	Php 1:27-30	Isa 41:17-20
SC TC:21-22	Ap IV:351	AC XXVIII:5-12	FC VIII:44-45	FC RN:11-13	Ap IV:17-18
WLS:2605	WLS:1675	WLS:3580	WLS:524	WLS:1165	WLS:4158
Ro 12:9-21	Da 2:27-30	1 Jn 1:1-4	Isa 2:2-5	Jn 7:7	Ps 30:5-12
AC XIII:1-2	FC II:89	FC II:55-56	LC SoA:61	Ap XXVII:18-19	FC II:47
WLS:4168	WLS:3330	WLS:2914	WLS:5035	WLS:2103	WLS:1095
2 Ch 1:1	Jn 5:39-40	Pr 20:15	Eph 2:14-18	Mal 3:16-18	1 Jn 5:14-15
LC TC:247	FC VI:14	FC II:52-53	FC XI:60-61	Ap IV:343	LC LP:103
WLS:755	WLS:4798	WLS:2990	WLS:999	WLS:4485	WLS:2046
Pr 19:13-14	Ro 15:4	Isa 52:7-10	Rev 12:10-12	Nu 33:50-56	Jn 6:37
Ap XXIII:61	FC I:60	LC TC:158-160	Ap VII/VIII:10-11	FC X:3	Ap XIII:20-22
WLS:3143	WLS:241	WLS:4970	WLS:2097	WLS:646	WLS:4340

Prayers

Christian

It is not I, O Lord. I do not always want to believe this, and I certainly do not always feel it, but your reality brings me back to heaven. Whatever accomplishments might be attributed to me are not mine. All glory and praise belongs to you for whatever great or good things I have been a part of. Thank you for being with me and for using me. Amen.

Student

I love to get mail, O Paraklete of God, but I could never even dream to get a message from you. Yet that is exactly what you have done. You caused the Scriptures to be written thousands of years ago, especially for me today. Use my study of them to teach me, to encourage me, and to give me hope, that my faith might not only endure, but increase. Amen.

Proclaimer

I wonder, Jesus, I wonder what your voice sounded like. Certainly your disciples knew, and when you spoke, they recognized that it was you. The people I serve react the same way to my voice. But I need more. Grant me grace when I speak that they may hear you, the true Shepherd of the sheep, and recognize your voice in the sound of my words. Amen.

Evangelist

‘The brotherhood of man.’ ‘Peace on earth.’ How misused these slogans are, O Lord! I have come to distrust and despise them, yet I dare not dismiss them—and thanks be to you for it. You established the true brotherhood (and sisterhood) of mankind, the brotherhood of the redeemed, by dying for all. By your gospel you give true peace on earth, peace with God, peace in the soul, the invisible fellowship of peace with each other. Make me an agent of unity and a force for peace as I share this message. Amen.

Advocate

“Be separate.” “There must be divisions.” “Keep away from them.” I hear what you say, O God. I am committed to avoiding false fellowship and unionism, which you hate. Turn the coin over for me, though, and open my eyes to see the blessing of mutual concern and encouragement you give in my true outward fellowship. You have united me to others in the confession of your truth. Rather than just something to run away from, make me view fellowship, your true fellowship, as something to run to. Amen.

Counselor

No one really likes to be rejected, O Jesus. It pained your heart to experience it. And yet this is exactly what some fear in regard to you. Their hearts condemn them and they are certain that in your holiness you will not receive them. When I paint a picture of you for such troubled souls, lead me to draw your arms first, your inviting, accepting, open arms, arms that say, “whoever comes to me, I will never drive away.” Amen.

Benediction

May the LORD our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us.
1 Kings 8:57

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer *Almighty and merciful God, be gracious to me and bless me. Equip my body and mind to resist the attacks of the Evil One and to do your will with a joyful heart.*

Confession *Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Psalm 51:5*

Absolution *Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. Micah 7:18-19*

Psalm 139

You created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and
wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
All the days ordained for me were written in
your book before one of them came to be.
How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast are the sum of them!
Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand.

Hymn 503

O blessed home, where man and wife
Together lead a godly life,
By love their faith confessing!
There many a happy day is spent;
There Jesus gladly will consent
To tarry with his blessing
Oh, Lord, we come before your face,
In ev'ry home bestow your grace
On children, father, mother.
Relieve their wants; their burdens ease.
Let them together dwell in peace
And love for one another.

Series A	Series B	Series C	Historic	Synod. Conf.	Soll
Ps 118	Ps 139b	Ps 27	Ps 139a	Ps 37:25-40	Ps 4
Isa 5:1-7	Ge 2:18-24	Hab 1:1-3; 2:1-4	Ex 15:22-26	Col 3:1-10	Jer 16:16-21
Php 3:12-21	Heb 2:9-11	2 Ti 1:3-14	Eph 4:22-28	Mt 10:40-42	2 Co 2:14-17
Mt 21:33-43	Mk 10:2-16	Lk 17:1-10	Mt 9:1-8	Mt 6:19-23	Mk 9:38-50

Christian	Student	Proclaimer	Evangelist	Advocate	Counselor
Hos 6:1-7	Heb 3:1	2 Ch 15:1-7	Lk 2:38	Ps 53:4-5	Mt 26:69-75
Ap XXVII:36-37	FC II:10	Ap XIII:10-13	SC Cr:3-4	LC SoA:4-7	FC VII:69-71
WLS:3724	WLS:2056	WLS:2896	WLS:3860	WLS:3210	WLS:13
Job 1:20-22	Jn 6:63	Mal 2:1-9	Acts 15:11	Ne 4:1-23	Mk 4:35-41
LC TC:206-207	Ap IV:390	Ap XXIV:50-51	Ap XX:1-3	FC RN:7	AC XXIV:30
WLS:881	WLS:4384	WLS:3568	WLS:469	WLS:3730	WLS:2529
1 Pe 2:4-12	Dt 18:14-22	Mk 6:34	Ps 67:1-7	1 Co 11:18-19	La 2:18-22
FC VI:15-19	FC VII:45-47	AC VII:1-4	SA III/IV	Tr:59	Ap XII:88-89
WLS:2149	WLS:279	WLS:3604	WLS:2178	WLS:430	WLS:4443
Mk 7:14-23	Ps 63:2	1 Ti 4:11	Hab 3:2	Rev 19:20-21	Ne 9:19-21, 26-27
LC SoA:83-84	Ap IV:48-52	FC VI:10-12	LC SoA:20-22	SC TC:15-16	FC XI:30-32
WLS:4354	WLS:3130	WLS:2473	WLS:4069	WLS:1949	WLS:681

Prayers

Christian

I need a powerwashing, O Lord. I do not need my skin or hair cleansed, but my heart. Everything you have made is good, but my soul boils over with iniquity. I sin, not because the devil or the world makes me, but because evil flows from my heart. And yet I am saved because:

My guilt, O Father, you have laid on Christ, your Son, my Savior.

Lord Jesus, you my debt have paid and gained for me God's favor.

O Holy Spirit, Fount of grace, the good in me to you I trace; in faith and hope preserve me. Amen.

Student

I have a huge and nagging problem studying the Bible, O Holy Spirit. I am a wanderer. I get distracted easily. I daydream. I focus on things not related to what I am reading. I see the words but my mind roams all around the world. I need a fix from you, actually, two fixes. Give me concentration on what I am reading. Then focus my thoughts on Jesus and how the words before me relate to him, the center of all your revelation. Amen.

Proclaimer

You want my lips to preserve knowledge, and you want people to seek instruction from my mouth, O heavenly Father. I know this position makes me vulnerable to hatred and scorn, mockery and ridicule, humiliation and disdain. Grant me your grace that, when these come, they may not come because I turned from your way and led others astray. You made me your messenger. Now help me deliver your message. Amen.

Evangelist

"Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me." I know what a lot of people mean by that, and it is not exactly what I mean. I want all people to know the peace which you give, O Jesus, peace with God through your universal atonement. If only they knew and believed as your Spirit has made me know and believe! Then all the peoples would praise God and the nations would be glad and sing for joy! Be gracious to me and bless me that one by one, beginning with me, there will be peace on earth through you. Amen.

Advocate

I believe in miracles, dear Lord. I trust your true miracles and I accept the existence of the counterfeit miracles of Satan. Keep me from ever being deluded by miraculous signs that lead to false teaching. Preserve my understanding and my faith until that day when the sword from your mouth destroys all that leads away from your truth. Amen.

Counselor

There are times, O Jesus, when I see sin coming and I am certain the people I counsel are going to fall. Like you, I warn them. I caution them against Satan, who knows their weaknesses. I take no pleasure in being right in such situations, and I ask you to keep me humble. Even more, I ask you to give me your heart, that I might, by speaking your promises of forgiveness, draw back the erring and console those who weep bitterly in guilt. Amen.

Benediction *The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.* 1 Corinthians 16:23