

JULY 27, 2025
SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Jesus teaches his followers to pray.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 11:1-13	Jesus teaches about prayer
Monday	Genesis 18:20-32	Abraham haggles with God
Tuesday	Colossians 2:6-19	Fullness of life in Christ
Wednesday	Exodus 32:7-14	Moses appeals to God
Thursday	James 5:13-20	The prayer of faith
Friday	Matthew 6:5-15	Jesus on prayer
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise and thanksgiving
Sunday	Luke 12:13-21	Parable of the rich fool

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

He [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." Luke 11:1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and merciful God, we thank you that you reach out to us in Christ so that we may enjoy a personal relationship with you filled with hope and confidence. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, your care for us goes beyond what we can imagine; we thank you for this food, one of the ways you shower us with your mercy. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you confidence in your life of prayer.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
Day by Day



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Who is a person you know that is easy to talk to? Explain.
- How has prayer had an impact on your life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 11:1-13.

How can one comfortably and confidently speak to the Almighty? Jesus' followers wanted to learn how to pray. Whether we are a person in the role of leadership in the congregation or one who participates regularly in worship and other activities, many of us feel ill-equipped when asked about our prayer life. It is normal to feel that way. There can be a feeling of vulnerability. When Jesus taught the disciples the Lord's Prayer, he did two important things. First, he prayed often, something that is especially noted in the Gospel of Luke. Second, Jesus gave a simple and short outline for prayer: praise God; pray for God's kingdom to be evident in life; ask for food to stay alive; seek forgiveness; and ask for help to avoid times that test our character as a follower of Jesus. All of this is offered to God as "Father," as an intimate relationship of a child to a parent. Prayer involves a personal and trusted relationship with God. Prayer gives praise and thanksgiving to God and requests for the basics in life, including forgiveness for ourselves and for others.

Discuss: Who taught you to pray the Lord's Prayer and how often do you pray it?

Pray: **Heavenly Father, teach us to pray that we may celebrate our trusted relationship with you and care for all that you have made through Jesus Christ, our partner in prayer. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who can you visit and pray with?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Prayer is a practice we need to learn, both as individuals and when in groups. Even Jesus' disciples needed to learn how to pray. Prayer helps us to grow in our relationship with God. What part does prayer play in your daily life? Consider building a daily routine of prayer using the acronym **ACTS** as a guide. **A**doration is praising God, **C**onfession is admitting wrong doings, **T**hanksgiving is thanking God, and **S**upplication is asking and making requests known to God. Take a moment now to use this format and write a prayer for today. Read your prayer aloud and finish by saying "Amen," which means "so be it."



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org