

JULY 24, 2022  
SEVENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST



*Walking with Christ.*

### 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 negotiates with God
Tuesday	Colossians 2:6-19	Fullness of life in Christ
Wednesday	Psalms 143:7-12	Prayer in time of danger
Thursday	1 John 5:13-20	Knowing about eternal life
Friday	Proverbs 3:21-26	The true security
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise and thanksgiving
Sunday	Luke 12:13-21	Parable of the rich fool

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught abounding in thanksgiving. Colossians 2:6-7 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Forgiving and Compassionate God, we thank you that through the Holy Spirit you give us a living faith to grow and trust in Christ each and every day. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

O God, you who feed us like a loving parent, bless this food. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the God who hears your every request bless you with faith and trust.



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### HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Lord, Listen to Your  
Children Praying*



### 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:

- How do friends develop a close relationship?
- Where and when do you pray? How does prayer help your relationship with God?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Colossians 2:6-19.

In the original Greek text, “*continue to live your lives*” has, at its root, the meaning “as you walk in Christ.” The passage gives an answer to how we walk in or with Christ daily. Through baptism, we have died and are now raised with Christ through the rebirth of forgiveness. Various spiritual observances can be a distraction if not done with the primary goal of walking daily in Christ, to be “*rooted and built up in him*” (v. 7). Colossians seeks to keep our spiritual experiences focused on the essentials of walking daily in faith with Christ. That’s all that is needed. Practices like prayer can bless us because we are trusting in the God who provides for us and is trustworthy (Luke 11:1-13). We can pray and even shamelessly challenge God because God listens, cares, and does not shame us for wanting a real relationship with God (Genesis 18:20-32).

*Discuss:* How does attending worship, reading scripture, and praying help you walk with Christ?

*Pray:* **Dear God, you do everything to keep a relationship with us. Help us to walk and grow in faith in Christ that we may confidently follow you all the days of our lives. Amen.**

### SERVICE

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

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Luke 11:2-4 gives us a version of the Lord’s Prayer. Jesus connects prayer with a God who cares for us and provides all that we need, including daily bread, forgiveness, and protection from evil. The Lord’s Prayer has sustained Christians for nearly 2,000 years. This is a prayer worthy of being prayed regularly. Select a version of the Lord’s Prayer and pray it both morning and night this week.



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