

FROM LUTHER'S PRAYERS:

Heavenly Father, may we commend to you all who strive and work against great and many temptations. Strengthen those who still stand. Restore those who have fallen and given up. Grant all of us your grace in a miserable and uncertain life, and though surrounded constantly by so many enemies may we persistently fight with a valiant and firm faith, and finally obtain the eternal crown. Amen

FROM LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM:

The Evening Blessing:

In the evening, when you go to bed, you are to make the sign of the cross and say:

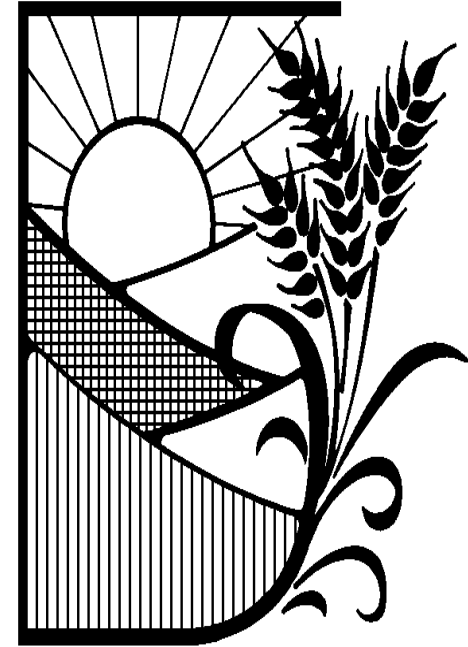
**Under the care of God the Father, Son
and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Then kneeling or standing, say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you wish, you may recite this little prayer as well:

**I give thanks to you, my heavenly Father,
through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you
have graciously protected me today, and I ask
you to forgive me all my sins, where I have done
wrong, and graciously to protect me tonight.
For into your hands I commend myself: my body,
my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel
be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no
power over me. Amen.**

Then you are to go to sleep quickly and cheerfully.

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Gracious Father, your blessed Son came down from
heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world.
Give us this bread, that he may live in us and we in him,
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

GOSPEL: John 6:24-35

When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were (beside the sea) they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi when did you come here?” 26 Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27 Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.”

28 Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God? 29 Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent. “ 30 So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written. ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

32 Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” 34 They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN ?

Him hath the Father sent.

John vi. 27.

An emphasis is given in this word, as though it means: His father is no rogue or wicked man. I will tell you who he is: He is God; He is the Father who is called God; and the Father has set His eyes upon the Son, and has made all things subject unto Him, that we should eat His flesh and drink His blood, and be sustained by them; else we must all perish. The Father has sealed and set before us Christ the Son alone, and He has laid His whole will and grace on Christ and no other.

Since God has thus sealed Him with His seal—and He has but one seal—unto Him alone has He given the Holy Ghost, in order that all mankind should turn to Him alone, and all the Scripture points to Him; that He alone has the letter and the seal; for He is the image and the firstborn, begotten, given, and sent that He alone may help us, as God Himself spoke from heaven: ‘This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.’ God the Father sets His seal upon Him; therefore we should accept Him alone, and hearken to none but Him.

Sermons on John vi – viii.

W.A. 33. 79 f.

Taken from the book:

Day by Day We Magnify Thee
by Martin Luther

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