

Daily Prayer

MONDAY, JUNE 22

Today's prayer is based on the twenty-sixth question and answer of the Heidelberg Catechism, 1563. The question is: What do you believe when you say: *I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth?*

*That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them,*

Thank you, immortal Father of Jesus Christ my Lord,
for bringing into existence the whole fabric of reality,
both the visible here and now - and the invisible to come;
both heaven and earth - and every thing and person in them;
both it - the cosmos, and us in it.

who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence,

Thank you for your constancy and consistency in
upholding your world and us in it,
and for ruling your world and us in it.
Thank you for the *counsel* you take within the Trinity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit - everything is considered;
and thank you for the governing power you demonstrate
every moment over this world and us in it - nothing is random.

is my God and Father because of Christ his Son.

Thank you for revealing yourself to be, not just my God,
but my God *and* Father, because of who Jesus is and what he has done.

I trust him so much I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul,

Thank you for the assurance which rises both from your gift of faith -
and from my subsequent experience.
Thank you that I need not fear for my body or for the state of my soul.
Your perfect love leaves no room for fear.
Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

and he will turn to my benefit whatever adversity he sends me in this sad world.

Father, thank you for the understanding that you never promised
I would see no trouble,
but you did promise you would see me through any trouble.
Give me eyes to see your benefit in the troubles I face.

*He is able to do this because he is almighty God;
he desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.*

Thank you Father, for both these things:
the revealing of your power,
and the assurance that that power is
governed by your absolute best intentions for me.
Carry me by that power with those intentions
for Jesus and his kingdom's sake. Amen.

adapted by ptc

The door is closed to prayer unless it is opened with the key of trust.

- John Calvin