



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 18 through October 24, 2020*

When the Pharisees attempted to trap Jesus by asking about the payment of taxes to Caesar, Jesus pointed to a coin and answered that we should “render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” (Matt. 22:21). But if coins bearing the image of Caesar should be rendered to Caesar, then what shall we render to the Lord? Having lost the image of God through our sin, how can we ever repay what God requires of us? Quite simply, we can’t! However, the tax has been paid for us by our Lord Jesus Christ who bore the Image of God in the flesh. By His self-offering on the cross, He rendered Himself to God in payment for the sin of the world, that we might be rendered to God bearing the image of His righteousness. Through our Baptism into Christ, we have been restored to the image of God by which we are now rendered to Him for life everlasting.

AN ORDER FOR DAILY MEDITATION AND PRAYER

Read the Scriptures appointed for the day, review the readings from Sunday, and learn by heart the appointed verse and portion of the Small Catechism. Conclude with the Psalms, the Collect, and the prayers, using the guidelines as you see appropriate.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Oct. 18	Psalm 75	Deut. 17:1-20	Matt. 14:1-21
Monday, Oct. 19	Psalm 80:14-19	Deut. 18:1-22	Matt. 14:22-36
Tuesday, Oct. 20	Psalm 138	Deut. 19:1-20	Matt. 15:1-20
Wednesday, Oct. 21	Psalm 142	Deut. 20:1-20	Matt. 15:21-39
Thursday, Oct. 22	Psalm 62	Deut. 21:1-23	Matt. 16:1-12
Friday, Oct. 23	Psalm 107:10-16	Deut. 24:10-25:10	Matt. 16:13-28
Saturday, Oct. 24	Psalm 99	Deut. 25:17-26:19	Matt. 17:1-13

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – OCTOBER 18, 2020

Theme: Jesus bore the image of our sin that we might be rendered to God bearing the image of His righteousness.

Hymn: 850, “God of Grace and God of Glory”

Summary of Readings:

Isaiah 45:1-7: The Lord chose Cyrus by name and equipped him for victory over the enemies of His people, transforming him from pagan warlord to savior of God’s people, giving him a new face that would be remembered throughout history.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10: God chose the Thessalonians and called them by His Gospel, changing the face of their affliction to the face of joy that shined everywhere throughout the ancient world.

Matthew 22:15-22: In the same way that Caesar would receive back the coin bearing his image and inscription, God will have back everything bearing His image and inscription: “In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

2 Corinthians 5:21: “For our sake God made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.”

THE CATECHISM: THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR I

(Important! If you have memorized a different translation in confirmation, it is best to pull out your old catechism and refresh your memory from those texts.)

What is the Sacrament of the Altar? It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 96:1-9 (ESV)

Meditate on this Psalm every day when you pray, and use it as the starting place for your own prayer:

¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! ²Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. ³Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! ⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. ⁵For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. ⁶Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! ⁹Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 96¹:

Thanks to You, O Father of Light, for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to establish a kingdom of grace and forgiveness among men on this earth. By Your Spirit make us new creatures in heart, mind, soul, and sentiment, and teach us to sing the new song of this new kingdom with rejoicing and gladness, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

¹ Reading the Psalms with Luther, CPH, 2007

DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER – (From LSB page 294)

Sunday: Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.

Monday: Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

Tuesday: Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.

Wednesday: Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

Thursday: Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

Friday: Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

Saturday: Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.

IN OUR PRAYERS AT CHRIST:

Prayer Family: *Laura Rawson* and her loved ones

Alyson Behel Moody and her unborn twins, friend of Nancy Tatum, who has been diagnosed with pre-eclampsia

Our Nation, in this tumultuous time

Sylvia Talyor, Joan Coward's sister, who is undergoing cancer treatment

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

Luther's Morning Prayer:

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.