



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 7 through February 13, 2021*

Though we read about demons in the Bible, we do not like to think that demons really have much of a place in our modern world. Yet this is simple ignorance, for we do not understand that we are constantly under the assault of demons, for we are constantly under the assault of the lies of the devil. Christ, Who is the Word of God Incarnate, has come not only to die for our sins, and be raised for our justification, but to destroy the false words of Satan with the true Word of God.

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, Feb. 7	Psalm 4	Job 4:1-21	John 2:1-12
Monday, Feb. 8	Psalm 69:1-4, 8-9, 24, 29-30	Job 5:1-27	John 2:13-25
Tuesday, Feb. 9	Psalm 23:1-5	Job 6:1-13	John 3:1-21
Wednesday, Feb. 10	Psalm 38:1-3, 6, 9-11, 21-22	Job 6:14-30	John 3:22—4:6
Thursday, Feb. 11	Psalm 147:1-3, 6-11	Job 7:1-21	John 4:7-26
Friday, Feb. 12	Psalm 71:1-6, 17-18	Job 8:1-22	John 4:27-45
Saturday, Feb. 13	Psalm 95:1-7a	Job 9:1-35	John 4:46-54

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – FEBRUARY 7, 2021

Theme: Christ has come to cast out the lies of Satan by the truth of His Word.

Hymn: 655, “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Summary of Readings:

Isaiah 40:21–31: God, who is above all, the Creator of all, and the power of all, is the salvation of all; and in Him are we to put our trust.

1 Corinthians 9:16–27: St. Paul encourages the Church to fortify itself against temptation, as an athlete strengthens himself before a contest, and fights fiercely during his competition. So too are we Christians, who fight against great satanic powers, to continue our fight without ceasing, that we may win the crown of glory.

Mark 1:29–39: Christ, having healed Simon’s mother, journeys to other towns and villages, that He might also heal the sick and cast out demons there.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

John 6:63: “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.”

THE CATECHISM: THE APOSTLE'S CREED: SECOND ARTICLE

(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.)

The Second Article: Redemption

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 147:1-11 (ESV)

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

¹Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. ²The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. ³He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. ⁴He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. ⁵Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. ⁶The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground. ⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre! ⁸He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass grow on the hills. ⁹He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry. ¹⁰His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, ¹¹but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 147¹:

You, O Lord, our merciful and gracious Father, who has given unto us the knowledge of Your free grace in Jesus Christ, grant us grateful hearts which daily offer to You the true sacrifices of thanksgiving and praise, and graciously accept our sacrifices, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY:

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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: *The Yenish Family* and their loved ones

Jerry Mutter, who has been diagnosed with coronavirus

Joshua (Holden) Hathcock, Brent and Becky's son, who has been diagnosed with coronavirus

Ruth Osburn, the organist of Messiah in Vicksburg, who is undergoing chemotherapy

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.