



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 17 through October 23, 2021*

Worldly wealth is a great gift from God, and all things God gives to us for our enjoyment. Yet when we trust in such worldly gifts, they become idols, and destroy faith in the very God that gave them. The Bible therefore tells us two seemingly contradictory truths: God will bless you with worldly comfort, and that worldly comfort will defile you. How can we reconcile the two? It can only be in knowing that we are all, ultimately poor, because none of us truly have any wealth at all, we merely have blessings on loan from God, which He will one day, even in the day of death, collect on. Therefore, as those who know themselves to be poor, having nothing but what has been lent to us, we trust in Christ, who though rich, became poor, like us, that we might enjoy His riches eternally.

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. 17	Psalm 39:4-13	Deut. 15:19-16:22	Matt. 13:44-58
Monday, Oct. 18	Psalm 75	Deut. 17:1-20	Matt. 14:1-21
Tuesday, Oct. 19	Psalm 80:14-19	Deut. 18:1-22	Matt. 14:22-36
Wednesday, Oct. 20	Psalm 138	Deut. 19:1-20	Matt. 15:1-20
Thursday, Oct. 21	Psalm 142	Deut. 20:1-20	Matt. 15:21-39
Friday, Oct. 22	Psalm 62	Deut. 21:1-23	Matt. 16:1-12
Saturday, Oct. 23	Psalm 107:10-16	Deut. 24:10-25:10	Matt. 16:13-28

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – OCTOBER 17, 2021

Theme: Christ humiliated Himself, becoming man, that He might bring us into all the riches of the heavenly glory.

Hymn: 743, “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

Summary of Readings:

Ecclesiastes 5:10–20: Money does not bring satisfaction, nor wealth an end of vexation. Rather, great wealth creates greater struggles in life.

Hebrews 4:1–13: We should strive to enter into the rest of God, the eighth day, where we shall enjoy Him forever. Therefore, we must remain in the Word of God, and avoid the deceptions and lies of this world.

Mark 10:23–31: Christ teaches concerning wealth, and the difficulty that the rich may have in entering the Kingdom.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Psalm 90:1-2: “LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.”

THE CATECHISM: THE TENTH COMMANDMENT

(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 Tenth Commandment? You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 119:9-16 (ESV)

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

⁹ How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

¹¹ I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

¹² Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!

¹³ With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth.

¹⁴ In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.

¹⁵ I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.

¹⁶ I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 119:9-16¹:

Beloved Father in heaven, You are blessed for granting us the Word of Your grace, in which You have revealed to us Your will concerning our salvation. Teach us to love Your Word, diligently to hear and willingly to learn it, that guided by this lamp our feet may walk in the way everlasting. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

O God, Your divine wisdom sets in order all things in heaven and on earth. Put away from us all things hurtful and give us those things that are beneficial for us; 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: *Christopher Martin* and his loved ones

Brad Browning, friend of the Haynes, who is recovering from surgery

Judy Nussbaum, friend of John Rudsenske, who has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

Bonnie Wood, Anita Martin's former boss, who recently underwent a heart catheterization

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.