



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 21 through November 27, 2021*

The end of the Church Year has come, and we contemplate the day of our Lord's coming. For a time, we were anxious if we were to be counted among the unwise virgins, but no longer. For a time we were anxious if we would be as the servant who buried the talent that was entrusted to him, but no longer. Behold, the Lord is coming, in grace and truth to make all things new. Let our only prayer be: 'Amen, Come Lord Jesus.'

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, Nov. 21	Psalm 114	Dan. 2:1-23	Rev. 18:1-24
Monday, Nov. 22	Psalm 111	Dan. 2:24-49	Rev. 19:1-21
Tuesday, Nov. 23	Psalm 39:4-12	Dan. 3:1-30	Rev. 20:1-15
Wednesday, Nov. 24	Psalm 41:7-12	Dan. 4:1-37	Rev. 21:1-8
Thursday, Nov. 25	Psalm 48:9-14	Dan. 5:1-30	Rev. 21:9-27
Friday, Nov. 26	Psalm 75	Dan 6:1-28	Rev. 22:1-21
Saturday, Nov. 27	Psalm 66:16-19	Is. 1:1-28	1 Peter 1:1-12

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Theme: The Lord is coming with mercy in his wings, to finish his work of creation, and to call his sheep to himself and to the joy of his glory.

Hymn: 387, “Joy to the World”

Summary of Readings:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24: The Lord promises to seek out his sheep, and to gather them together, binding the injuring and strengthening the weak, and establishing Christ, the Son of David as shepherd over them forever.

1 Corinthians 15:20-28: St. Paul teaches us concerning the resurrection of the dead, that as all men died in Adam, so will all men rise again in Christ, who will destroy death, and establish his dominion over all.

Matthew 25:31-46: Christ will come again in glory, calling to himself those who received the preachers of his Word, and rejecting those who, thinking themselves righteous, yet refused to hear the Word in faith.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Revelation 22:20: ‘He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!’

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 95:1-7 (ESV)

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

¹Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! ²Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! ³For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. ⁴In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. ⁵The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. ⁶Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! ⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 95¹:

Lord Jesus, teach us to profit by the warning examples of others. So govern us that we do not harden our hearts, as did those at Meribah. Incline our hearts to Your Gospel, and enable us by Your good Spirit to receive with meekness the engrafted Word that is able to save the soul. Suffer us not, O Lord, to fall from You, neither in life nor in death. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR:

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, 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: *Elaine Monaghan* and her loved ones

Larry Henderson, friend of Barbara Glenn, who is ill

Elaine Monaghan, who is beginning treatment for breast cancer

Shirley Ponder, friend of the Haynes, who is recovering from an accident

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.