



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Feast of the Epiphany
January 9 through January 15, 2022*

To be a gentile is to be one wandering in the darkness, having neither Law nor prophesy to guide your way, nor a temple to the true God toward which to direct your devotion. For countless ages, the gentile nations languished in darkness, but in the coming of the three magi to the Christ-child, the true and greatest revelation of God is given to those who were once lost. Thus, on this Feast of Epiphany, we celebrate the Messiah of the Jews being fully recognized as the Redeemer of all mankind.

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, Jan. 9	Psalm 62:5-12	Ezek. 3:12-27	Rom. 2:1-16
Monday, Jan 10	Psalm 85:1-13	Ezek. 18:1-4, 19-32	Rom. 2:17-29
Tuesday, Jan. 11	Psalm 7:1-5, 8-11	Ezek. 33:1-20	Rom. 3:1-18
Wednesday, Jan. 12	Psalm 63:3-11	Ezek. 34:1-24	Rom. 3:19-31
Thursday, Jan. 13	Psalm 32:1-7	Ezek. 36:13-28	Rom. 4:1-25
Friday, Jan. 14	Psalm 104:27-30	Ezek. 36:33— 37:14	Rom 5:1-21
Saturday, Jan. 15	Psalm 29:1-4a, 8-11	Ezek. 37:15-28	Rom. 6:1-23

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JANUARY 9, 2022

Theme: The Savior of the world is revealed to the gentiles who were once in darkness.

Hymn: 400, “Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”

Summary of Readings:

Isaiah 60:1-6: The prophet speaks of the coming of the Lord who will be a great light to all nations.

Ephesians 3:1–12: St. Paul introduces himself as the Apostle to the gentiles, given by God to give to those not of the line of Abraham the wisdom and salvation of God.

Matthew 2:1–12: The three magi visit Our Lord and the Holy Mother.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Isaiah 7:14: ‘The Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.’

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: SECOND PETITION 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.)

Thy kingdom come.

What does this mean? The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 72:1-15 (ESV)

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

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! ²May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice! ³Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness! ⁴May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor! ⁵May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations! ⁶May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth! ⁷In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more! ⁸May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth! ⁹May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust! ¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! ¹¹May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him! ¹²For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. ¹³He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. ¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight. ¹⁵Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day!

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 72¹:

To You, our heavenly Father, we lift up our hearts with joyous thanks, because You have granted us the knowledge of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in whom we have everlasting life. Preserve in us this saving knowledge, that we may hear His voice with joy, and may go with Him into His eternal kingdom. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD:

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same 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: *Ramsey Family* and their loved ones

The Family of Ed Bunker, Margaret Haynes's relative, who entered eternal rest

Eric Hearon, Mark Ochs's friend, who recently suffered a stroke

Eloise Springer, who will be undergoing an eye procedure

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.