



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
January 30 through February 5, 2022*

As Jesus pours out His gifts on the Sabbath, His preaching is itself an epiphany – a manifestation of God, for His Word reveals the authority of His Cross and the power of His Resurrection to make all things new. By the preaching of His Gospel in every place, He silences the unclean spirits and casts out demons, heals the diseases of body and soul, and restores life and health to His creation.¹ Even to this day as you hear His Word and receive His gifts through the Office of the Holy Ministry, it is by this same authority that your sins are forgiven, your demons are cast out, and you are gathered into His Kingdom 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.

¹ Adapted from LCMS Commission on Worship, “Lectionary Summaries for Epiphany,” 2013

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 30	Psalm 33:18-22	Zech. 9:1-17	2 Tim. 2:1-26
Monday, Jan. 31	Psalm 135:1-7, 13-14	Zech. 10:1—11:3	2 Tim. 3:1-17
Tuesday, Feb. 1	Psalm 28	Zech. 11:4-17	2 Tim. 4:1-18
Wednesday, Feb. 2	Psalm 75	Zech. 12:1—13:9	Titus 1:1—2:6
Thursday, Feb. 3	Psalm 47	Zech. 14:1-21	Titus 2:7—3:15
Friday, Feb. 4	Psalm 127	Job 1:1-22	John 1:1-18
Saturday, Feb. 5	Psalm 31:1-2, 23-24	Job 2:1—3:10	John 1:19-34

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JANUARY 30, 2022

Theme: Jesus comes to us with all authority in heaven and earth to reverse the curse and make all things new by the power of His Word.

Hymn: 666, “O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe”

Summary of Readings:

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (17-19): The Lord puts His hand to the mouth of Jeremiah, giving him authority to speak His Word. Wherever the word of the prophet is spoken, it is the power of God that is living and active to bring about what it says. Nothing shall prevail against it.

1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13: The word that St. Paul speaks may have the power to remove mountains, but it remains worthless if it is not spoken in love to bring about contrition, faith, and reconciliation.

Luke 4:31-44: Jesus reveals Himself as God with us by the power and authority of His Word that casts out demons, takes away diseases, and opens the kingdom of heaven to all who receive His gifts for life and salvation.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Psalm 33:6: “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.”

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: THIRD PETITION II

(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 will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

How is God's will done? God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 71 (ESV)

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

¹In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame!

²In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me, and save me!

³Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

⁴Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.

⁵For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

⁶Upon you I have leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

⁷I have been as a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge.

⁸My mouth is filled with your praise, and with your glory all the day.

⁹Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent.

¹⁰For my enemies speak concerning me; those who watch for my life consult together

¹¹and say, "God has forsaken him; pursue and seize him, for there is none to deliver him."

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 71²:

Lord Jesus, who in Your childhood set an example for the young to follow, by Your Holy Word teach our children, and all the rising generation, the beginning of wisdom, which is the fear of God. Cause our young men and women to shun the byways of vanity and vice, and to walk in the straight path of godliness and virtue, and make them ornaments of Your Holy Church. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY:

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

² 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: *Keeley Rimoldi* and her loved ones

Brian & Haley Atchley, the Atchleys' son and daughter-in-law, who were married last week

Steven Hickok, friend of Mark Ochs, who has been hospitalized with a stroke

Mary Swisher, Margaret Haynes's sister, who is recovering from coronavirus

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.