



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 15 through May 21, 2022*

The message of the Law and the Prophets can be summed up in two commandments: Love God with all your heart and soul and mind; and likewise, love your neighbor as yourself. Jesus, before His Passion, gives to His disciples a new commandment: to love one another as He has loved them. At first, this does not seem new at all, but a reiteration of the old; but when we understand Christ's love of us, we realize how truly new this commandment is; for our Lord did not merely treat us kindly or have compassion upon us, but took on our flesh, our sin, our guilt, and united Himself to our existence. This is the Love of God: that He has united Himself to our misery, that we might be united to His glory. Being united to Christ in love, then, we love one another with Christ's love, born within us of the Holy Spirit, and that for a little time only, until our Lord gathers us to Himself in the ever new life of the world to come.

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

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| Sunday, May 15 | Psalm 37:1-9 | Lev. 20:1-16, 22-27 | Luke 11:37-54 |
| Monday, May 16 | Psalm 31:1-5 | Lev. 21:1-24 | Luke 12:1-12 |
| Tuesday, May 17 | Psalm 127 | Lev. 23:1-22 | Luke 12:13-34 |
| Wednesday, May 18 | Psalm 116:12-19 | Lev. 23:23-44 | Luke 12:35-53 |
| Thursday, May 19 | Psalm 52 | Lev. 24:1-23 | Luke 12:54—13:17 |
| Friday, May 20 | Psalm 119:33-40 | Lev. 26:1-20 | Luke 13:18-35 |
| Saturday, May 21 | Psalm 63:1-5, 8-11 | Lev. 26:21-33, 39-44 | Luke 14:1-24 |

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – MAY 15, 2022

Theme: In divine love, God took on our nature, our sin, and our death, so that we might take on His glory, His righteousness, and His life, through the life-giving gifts of the Church, the heavenly Jerusalem.

Hymn: 845, “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

Summary of Readings:

Acts 11:1-18: The Christian Jews question why it was that Peter dined with Gentiles. Peter replies that he had had a vision of God giving to man all food as clean to eat, thus showing the mission was not for those who kept the Law of Moses only, but for the Gentiles as well. Peter then recalls how the Gentiles he was brought to were filled with the Holy Spirit, even as the Apostles were at Pentecost.

Revelation 21:1-7: St. John witnesses the descent of the New Jerusalem, of the union of heaven and earth, and of the dwelling place of God with men. Christ declares that He has made all things new through His atoning work and resurrection.

John 13:31-35: Christ, anticipating His suffering, gives to His disciples a new commandment, that they love one another, even as He has loved them.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

1 John 4:19: “We love Him because He first loved us.”

THE CATECHISM: OFFICE OF THE KEYS (PART 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.)

What do you believe according to these words? I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 148 (ESV)

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

¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! ²Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts! ³Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars! ⁴Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.

⁶And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, ⁸fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word! ⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

¹⁰Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds! ¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! ¹²Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven. ¹⁴He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

PRAYER ON PSALM 148:

Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him! Es, I will laud Him until death; With songs and anthems I come before Him As long as He allows me breath. From Him my life and all things came; Bless, O my soul, His holy name, Alleluia, alleluia! Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal; Earthborn they are and soon decay. Vain are their counsels at life's last portal, When the dark grave engulfs its prey. Since mortals can no help afford. Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! *(LSB 797:1,2)*

COLLECT FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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: *Bruce Bodkin* and his loved ones.

The Family and Friends of Joyce Caine, friend of the Weidners, who has entered eternal rest

Cathy McDonald, friend of the Weidners, who has stage 4 cancer

Tommy Upton, Rachel Landrum's father who is having cataract surgery

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.