



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 31 through August 6, 2022*

It is God's desire that we enjoy all that He has created for our benefit. Yet we do not simply enjoy it, we submit ourselves to it. In a thousand ways, we enslave ourselves to that which we were meant to rule over; this is the meaning of idolatry. So our Lord calls us away from the rule of the idols and draws us to Himself, that we might return to what we were meant to be: kings of creation, gods over it, with only the One True God above us.

### **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, July 24	Psalm 24:7-10	1 Sam. 8:1-22	Acts 21:15-36
Monday, July 25	Psalm 63:1-8	1 Sam. 9:1-27	Acts 21:37— 22:16
Tuesday, July 26	Psalm 50:1-6	1 Sam. 15:10-35	Acts 24:24— 25:12
Wednesday, July 27	Psalm 119:17-24	1 Sam. 12:1-25	Acts 22:30-23:11
Thursday, July 28	Psalm 59:1-5	1 Samuel 13:1-18	Acts 23:12-35
Friday, July 29	Psalm 119:41-48	1 Samuel 14:47— 15:9	Acts 24:1-23
Saturday, July 30	Psalm 50:1-6	1 Samuel 15:10- 35	Acts 24:24— 25:12

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JULY 31, 2022

**Theme:** God meant us to enjoy the world He made for us, yet we instead enslave ourselves to it. From this our Lord redeems us through His sacrifice.

**Hymn:** 724, “If God Himself Be for Me”

### Summary of Readings:

**Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26:** All the labors of life are vanity, for death renders them all void. All earthly things gained in life are lost in death. Therefore, the only thing a wise man can do is strive not after the wind, but enjoy that which one has before him of God.

**Colossians 3:1-11:** St. Paul teaches us that, being born again of Christ, all earthly distinctions are done away with; for we are not born of men, nor of their tribes or distinctions, but born of God. Therefore, we should live as those born of God and not of the flesh, keeping ourselves clean of all defilement and sin.

**Luke 12:13–21:** Our Lord condemns covetousness and greed, reminding His people through a parable that, though we may gather much wealth, thinking that we have found security in it, yet we may die at any moment, and our material success will have no power to save us.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**Luke 12:15:** “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”

## **THE CATECHISM: THE NINTH 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 Ninth Commandment? **You shall not covet your neighbor's house.***

*What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.*

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 100 (ESV)**

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

<sup>1</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! <sup>2</sup>Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! <sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup>Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! <sup>5</sup>For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

## **LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 100<sup>1</sup>:**

Spirit of grace and of prayer that proceeds from the Father and the Son, grant us Your power, and intercede for us with sighings which cannot be uttered, that in spirit and in truth we may give thanks to our Savior Jesus Christ for His love and truth. Anoint us with the oil of gladness to walk before our God in a holy conversation, and to run the way of His Commandments. Amen.

## **COLLECT FOR THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:**

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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<sup>1</sup> 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: *Cecelia Dorsey* and her loved ones

*The Family of John Walker*, member of our sister congregation Epiphany Lutheran, who has entered eternal rest

*Bobby and Eloise Springer*, who are recovering from coronavirus

*The Unity of Christ's Body*, that Satan may not sow seeds of discord and strife

## **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.