



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 4 through September 10, 2022*

Christ notices a large crowd following Him, but instead of reveling in His followers, He seems to discourage them, explaining to them how hard it is to walk the path He walks, to truly give up everything, even father and mother and wife and brother and sister, and to take up the cross, and follow him. Yet He does not say these things to drive people away, but only to show speak the truth about the life of those who will follow the truth: that passion and suffering come before *life and good*.

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, Sept. 4	Psalm 90:13-17	2 Kings 2:1-18	Eph. 4:1-24
Monday, Sept. 5	Psalm 56:8-13	2 Kings 2:19-25; 4:1-7	Eph. 4:25-5:14
Tuesday, Sept. 6	Psalm 127	2 Kings 4:8-22, 32-37	Eph. 5:15-33
Wednesday, Sept. 7	Psalm 131	2 Kings 4:38-5:8	Eph. 6:1-24
Thursday, Sept. 8	Psalm 71:12-16	2 Kings 5:9-27	Phil. 1:1-20
Friday, Sept. 9	Psalm 61	2 Kings 6:1-23	Phil. 1:21-2:11
Saturday, Sept. 10	Psalm 58:1-8	2 Kings 9:1-13; 10:18-29	Phil. 2:12-30

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

Theme: In following Christ, we must endure every suffering, and give up every pleasure, if we are to inherit the Kingdom of God.

Hymn: 424, “O Christ, You Walked the Road”

Summary of Readings:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20: Speaking to His rescued and redeemed people, God says, “I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse.” God has given us life, but we can always go the way of death by rejecting His gifts and turning from the life He gives.

Philemon 1-21: Paul, acting by the authority of Christ, gives Onesimus new life, paying his debt and restoring him to his vocation and his household where he may live and serve by faith.

Luke 14:25-35: New life in Christ requires obedience to His Word over above any allegiance to the things of this world, even to our own family and life. We must renounce all that remains of our sinful nature to follow Jesus in the way of repentance that leads to eternal life.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

1 Corinthians 15:22: “For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.”

THE CATECHISM: THE APOSTLE'S CREED: FIRST 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.)

What does this mean (continued)?

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 1 (ESV)

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

¹Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

²but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

³He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

⁴The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 1¹:

O God, thanks and praise belong to You because You have given us Your Holy Word. Enlighten us by Your Holy Spirit to understand Your counsel of grace in Jesus Christ, to love Your Word, and to take delight in learning Your statutes and walking in Your Law. Bestow Your blessing and prosperity on the works of our hands in our Christian calling and all our conversation. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all.

Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, 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: *Barbara Glenn* and her loved ones

Natalie Rudsenske and John, as they recover from delivery

Linda Stoeckman, the Weidners' friend, who is in critical condition

Nichole Tatum and baby, Nancy's daughter-in-law, as they await this baby's birth

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.