



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Second Sunday of Advent  
December 4 through December 10, 2022*

The Pharisees and Sadducees come to John to be baptized unto repentance. Yet strangely, John rebukes them, calling them a *brood of vipers*. He does not single them out because they are the worst among the people, but the best. If they are the *children of snakes*, so are we, and we are all in need of repentance. John the Baptist does not turn these Pharisees and Sadducees away, but he does warn them that the Lord Jesus Christ is indeed coming, and that we should be prepared.

### **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, Dec. 4	Psalm 145:1-9	Is. 10:12-27, 33-34	2 Peter 1:1-21
Monday, Dec. 5	Psalm 49:5-12, 15	Is. 11:1—12:6	2 Peter 2:1-22
Tuesday, Dec. 6	Psalm 56:1-2, 5-11, 13	Is. 14:1-23	2 Peter 3:1-18
Wednesday, Dec. 7	Psalm 25:1-7	Is. 24:1-13	1 John 1:1—2:14
Thursday, Dec. 8	Psalm 11	Is. 24:14—25:12	1 John 2:15-29
Friday, Dec. 9	Psalm 17:6-15	Is. 26:1-19	1 John 3:1-24
Saturday, Dec. 10	Psalm 86:1-7	Is. 26:20—27:13	1 John 4:1-21

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – DECEMBER 4, 2022

**Theme:** We should prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord, both with repentance and joy.

**Hymn:** 345, “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

### Summary of Readings:

**Isaiah 11:1-10:** Isaiah describes the reign of the One who will come from the stump of Jesse (the remnant of the Davidic kingdom) to destroy the wicked and restore peace to creation--- the reign of Jesus Christ who will bring this to fulfillment on the Last Day.

**Romans 15:4-13:** Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of God’s promise to save all who hope and believe in Him, i.e. all who repent, Jew and Gentile alike.

**Matthew 3:1-12:** John the Baptist calls us to repent – to confess our sin and trust in God’s Savior alone, while threatening those who trust in themselves with destruction on the Last Day.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**Psalm 110:1:** “The LORD said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.’”

## **THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: FOURTH 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.)*

### **Give us this day our daily bread.**

*What is meant by daily bread?* Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

### **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 72 (ESV)**

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

- <sup>1</sup>Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!
- <sup>2</sup>May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!
- <sup>3</sup>Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!
- <sup>4</sup>May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!
- <sup>5</sup>May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- <sup>6</sup>May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!
- <sup>7</sup>In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

### **PRAYER ON PSALM 72<sup>1</sup>:**

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 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:**

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, 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: *Michael & Layné Martin* and their loved ones

*Wayne Bagley*, the Weidners' son-in-law, who is ill with the flu

*John Low*, friend of the Pedersens, who is ill

*Cynthia Widlitze*, Sabrina Goodlett's sister, who is undergoing medical tests

## **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.