



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 12 through February 18, 2023*

Christ teaches us that we are liable of murder if we even hate in our heart our neighbor. How much more liable are we if we hate our God. And we all do hate God, for that is the definition of Original Sin, the corruption we all inherit from Adam. Yet though we may hate God, and hate His image in our neighbor, yet He still loves 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, Feb. 12	Psalm 71:1-6, 17-18	Job 8:1-22	John 4:27-45
Monday, Feb. 13	Psalm 95:1-7a	Job 9:1-35	John 4:46-54
Tuesday, Feb. 14	Psalm 119:153-160	Job 10:1-22	John 5:1-18
Wednesday, Feb. 15	Psalm 57:1-5, 8-10	Job 11:1-20	John 5:19-29
Thursday, Feb. 16	Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16	Job 12:1-6, 12-25	John 5:30-47
Friday, Feb. 17	Psalm 37:25-29	Job 13:1-12	John 6:1-21
Saturday, Feb. 18	Psalm 105:1, 23, 37-43	Job 13:13-28	John 6:22-40

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – FEBRUARY 12, 2023

Theme: The love of God surpasses all of our sin and hatred, both toward our neighbor and toward God.

Hymn: 559, “Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion”

Summary of Readings:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20: The LORD sets before us life and death, advising us to “choose life” by “loving the LORD your God, obeying His voice, and holding fast to Him, *for He is your life...*”

1 Corinthians 3:1-9: When we fail to keep the commandments and give way to jealousy and strife, we live by the flesh and not by the Spirit of Christ. For that reason, God sends pastors like Paul and Apollos to call us to repentance, that He might build us up as a new creation.

Matthew 5:21-37: By His preaching of the 5th – 8th Commandments, Jesus tells us exactly what the Law requires, showing us not only what it means to be “salt” and “light” as His disciples, but also why we need His forgiveness for life and salvation.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Romans 3:28: “We hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.”

THE CATECHISM: CONFESSION (PART I)

(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 Confession? Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 119:1-8 (ESV)

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

¹ Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! ² Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, ³ who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways! ⁴ You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. ⁵ Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! ⁶ Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. ⁷ I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules. ⁸ I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 119¹:

Beloved Father in heaven, You are blessed for granting us the Word of Your grace, in which You have revealed to us Your will concerning our salvation. Teach us to love Your Word, diligently to hear and willingly to learn it, that guided by this lamp our feet may walk in the way everlasting. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY:

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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: *Mark Ochs* and his loved ones

Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Eloise Springer's sister, who is ill

Nikki Vines, Michelle Miller's sister, who is hospitalized

Cynthia Widlitze, Sabrina Goodlett's sister, who is undergoing a cardiac procedure

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.