



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Third Sunday of Easter
April 23 through April 29, 2023*

It has always been the fate of God's people to leave their own land, to enter into a land of persecution and death, and to be delivered from that place into life. Therefore, it is fitting that the Lord Christ should follow the same fate. Yet He shall not leave merely any land, but the earth. And He shall not enter a land of persecution, but the hell of torment, that He might be delivered by the Father into everlasting glory.

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, April 23	Psalm 119:49-56	Ex. 32:15-35	Luke 6:39-49
Monday, April 24	Psalm 80:1-7	Ex. 33:1-23	Luke 7:1-17
Tuesday, April 25	Psalm 86:11-17	Ex. 34:1-28	Luke 7:18-35
Wednesday, April 26	Psalm 84:1-4	Ex. 34:29—35:21	Luke 7:36-50
Thursday, April 27	Psalm 119:145-152	Ex. 38:21—39:8, 22-23, 27-31	Luke 8:1-21
Friday, April 28	Psalm 107:23-32	Ex. 39:32—40:16	Luke 8:22-39
Saturday, April 29	Psalm 41:1-3, 11-13	Ex. 40:17-38	Luke 8:40-56

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – APRIL 23, 2023

Theme: It is through this life of suffering that we inherit glory of Christ.

Hymn: 476, “Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow”

Summary of Readings:

Acts 2:14a, 36–41: St. Peter preaches to those of Judea the Gospel, and baptizes many.

1 Peter 1:17–25: St. Peter encourages us to purify our souls, knowing that we have been bought and purified by Christ’s own blood, something much more precious than anything we can imagine.

Luke 24:13–35: The Lord travels with those on the road to Emmaus, and reveals Himself to them in the scriptures and in the breaking of the bread.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Romans 1:16: “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.”

THE CATECHISM: THE THIRD AND FOURTH COMMANDMENTS

(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 Third Commandment? **Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.***

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

*What is the Fourth Commandment? **Honor your father and your mother.***

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 116:1-14 (ESV)

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

¹I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. ²Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. ³The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. ⁴Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!" ⁵Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful. ⁶The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. ⁷Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you. ⁸For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling; ⁹I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living. ¹⁰I believed, even when I spoke, "I am greatly afflicted"; ¹¹I said in my alarm, "All mankind are liars." ¹²What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me? ¹³I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, ¹⁴I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 116¹:

We give thanks to You, our God, who has hitherto graciously and mightily helped us in all our needs. Be our refuge and our help, and when our last day comes, grant that we fall asleep commending our souls into the hands of Your Son, Jesus Christ, confident that through His name our death is precious in Your sight. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER:

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, 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: *John & Jo Rudsenske* and their loved ones

Greg Goldman, who is in the hospital

Eloise Springer, who is ill

Cynthia Widlitze, Sabrina Goodlett's sister, who is recovering in rehab

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.