



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 14 through May 20, 2023*

The life of all humanity has been one of seeking after idols, that is, seeking after worldly powers and pleasures to serve, in hopes of finding meaning in them, for man has lost the meaning and end of his life by forsaking God, the source of all being. Yet, St. Paul teaches us, this God has returned to us in Christ, that we might no longer worship idols in ignorance, but the Father *in Spirit and in truth*.

### **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, May 14	Psalm 135:13-21	Num. 3:1-16, 39-48	Luke 14:25— 15:10
Monday, May 15	Psalm 103:6-14	Num. 8:5-26	Luke 15:11-32
Tuesday, May 16	Psalm 66	Num. 9:1-23	Luke 16:1-18
Wednesday, May 17	Psalm 62:5-10	Num. 10:11-36	Luke 16:19-31
Thursday, May 18	Psalm 130	Num. 11:1-23, 31-35	Luke 17:1-19
Friday, May 19	Psalm 77:11-15	Num. 11:24-29; 12:1- 16	Luke 17:20-37
Saturday, May 20	Psalm 119:97-104	Num. 13:1-3, 17-33	Luke 18:1-17

### A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – MAY 14, 2023

**Theme:** Christ has come to reveal the Father, that we might abandon the idols, and worships the one true God.

**Hymn:** 834, “O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth”

#### Summary of Readings:

**Acts 17:16–31:** St. Paul preaches Christ to the Athenians at the Areopagus, revealing to them to ‘unknown god.’

**1 Peter 3:13–22:** Being fortified by the knowledge of the victory of Christ over death and hell, St. Peter teaches the Church to endure all suffering and persecution with equanimity.

**John 14:15–21:** Christ promises the coming of the Holy Spirit, and the revelation of the Father in Himself.

#### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**1 John 3:2:** “Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”

## **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 66:8-20 (ESV)**

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

<sup>8</sup>Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard, <sup>9</sup>who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip. <sup>10</sup>For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. <sup>11</sup>You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs; <sup>12</sup>you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance. <sup>13</sup>I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you, <sup>14</sup>that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble. <sup>15</sup>I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. Selah <sup>16</sup>Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul. <sup>17</sup>I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue. <sup>18</sup>If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. <sup>19</sup>But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. <sup>20</sup>Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

## **LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 66<sup>1</sup>:**

Thanks and praise be unto You, God of all grace, because You have delivered our souls from the bondage of Satan, and have saved us through the Red Sea of the blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Cleanse us evermore with His blood that, with all Your saints, we may continually praise You. Amen.

## **COLLECT FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:**

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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: *Nancy Tatum* and her loved ones

*Marie Ferderer and Unborn Child*, as this new life grows

*The Family and Friends of Greg Goldman*, who has entered eternal rest

*Alli Thomas*, Laura Rawson's daughter, who is experiencing heart problems

## **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.