



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Seventh Sunday of Easter  
May 21 through May 27, 2023*

Our Lord, before His Passion, renders the greatest of His prayers known to us in the Gospels: what we call the ‘High Priestly Prayer.’ He prays that the Father may be glorified in His Passion, and that by His redemptive work, the Church may be brought into union with God. In this prayer, Christ prays that all the brokenness of this tormented world be brought together and unified in Himself, healed and made whole, that we might be saved.

### **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 21    | Psalm 81:10-16     | Num. 14:1-25     | Luke 18:18-34        |
| Monday, May 22    | Psalm 146:5-9      | Num. 14:26-45    | Luke 18:35—<br>19:10 |
| Tuesday, May 23   | Psalm 111          | Num. 16:1-22     | Luke 19:11-28        |
| Wednesday, May 24 | Psalm 118:19-25    | Num. 16:23-40    | Luke 19:29-48        |
| Thursday, May 25  | Psalm 80:14-19     | Num. 16:41—17:13 | Luke 20:1-18         |
| Friday, May 26    | Psalm 78:9-16      | Num. 20:1-21     | Luke 20:19-44        |
| Saturday, May 27  | Ps. 116:1-4, 16-19 | Num. 20:22—21:9  | Luke 20:45—<br>21:19 |

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – MAY 21, 2023

**Theme:** In Christ, all things are made whole.

**Hymn:** 512, “At the Name of Jesus”

### Summary of Readings:

**Acts 1:12–26:** The Apostles, having lost Judas, choose a replacement for him to further the ministry of the Word of God: Matthias.

**1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11:** St. Peter encourages the Church to suffer all torment in joy, knowing that in so suffering, they become imitators of Christ, and warns them against the ever-present temptations of the devil.

**John 17:1–11:** The Lord prays to the Father for the salvation of the Church, and for its unity within itself, and with the Father through Christ.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**1 John 4:9:** “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

## **THE CATECHISM: THE TENTH 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 Tenth Commandment? You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.*

*What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.*

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 68:1-10 (ESV)**

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

<sup>1</sup>God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him! <sup>2</sup>As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God! <sup>3</sup>But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy! <sup>4</sup>Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the LORD; exult before him! <sup>5</sup>Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. <sup>6</sup>God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land. <sup>7</sup>O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, <sup>8</sup>the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel. <sup>9</sup>Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad; you restored your inheritance as it languished; <sup>10</sup>your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

## **LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 68<sup>1</sup>:**

Glory and praise and honor belong to You, Lamb of God, because You were slain and have redeemed us to God by Your blood, and have led our captivity captive. Pour out Your Spirit upon the dry soil of our hearts that He may cause faith and love to spring up in them and to bring fruit unto eternal life. Amen.

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

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him 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 Teal* and her loved ones

*MariLynn Fuhrer*, who is recovering from surgery for a broken hip

*Cathy McDonald*, friend of the Weidners, who is in hospice

*The Family of Nancy Stowe*, John Rudsenske's cousin, who has entered eternal rest

## **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.