



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 23 through July 29, 2023*

It is too easy for us to believe that the story of the Bible is one of God and His righteous anger, then holy redemption, of His people from their sin against Him. Though this is surely the case, it is not the entire story, for God also accomplishes something else: the destruction of the devil, the very cause of sin. The Bible is both the story of the forgiveness of our sins by Christ's death on the cross and the story of God's victory over sin, death, and the devil.

### **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, June 23	Psalm 139:14-18, 23-24	Prov. 27:1-24	John 20:1-18
Monday, June 24	Psalm 85:7-13	Prov. 30:1-9, 18-33	John 20:19-31
Tuesday, June 25	Psalm 119:41-18	Prov. 31:10-31	John 21:1-25
Wednesday, June 26	Psalm 31:19-24	Joshua 1:1-18	Acts 8:1-25
Thursday, June 27	Psalm 51:1-9	Joshua 2:1-24	Acts 8:26-40
Friday, June 28	Psalm 89:24-29	Joshua 3:1-17	Acts 9:1-22
Saturday, June 29	Psalm 103:1-12	Joshua 4:1-24	Acts 9:23-43

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JULY 23, 2023

**Theme:** Christ has come not only to win for us forgiveness of our sins, but to destroy Satan, the *cause of sin*.

**Hymn:** 666, “O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe”

### Summary of Readings:

**Isaiah 44:6–8:** The Lord declares His ultimate victory over all the idols and false gods of the world, and of His deliverance of His people.

**Romans 8:18–27:** St. Paul teaches to us the hope we in the final resurrection of our bodies and redemption our souls, for which we eagerly endure every trial.

**Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43:** Christ teaches the parable of the wheat and the tares.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5:** “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”

## **THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: INTRODUCTION**

*(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.)*

### **Our Father who art in heaven.**

*What does this mean?* With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 119:57-64 (ESV)**

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

<sup>57</sup> The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep your words.

<sup>58</sup> I entreat your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.

<sup>59</sup> When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies;

<sup>60</sup> I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.

<sup>61</sup> Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget your law.

<sup>62</sup> At midnight I rise to praise you, because of your righteous rules.

<sup>63</sup> I am a companion of all who fear you, of those who keep your precepts.

<sup>64</sup> The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes!

### **LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 119:57-64<sup>1</sup>:**

O Lord, You who are the same yesterday, today, and forever, remember us pilgrims in this nether world; for frail is our frame, and few are our days. Let the Word of Your salvation be a lamp to our feet and a light for our path, that our soul must not walk in darkness, but may find the way to that city whose light is the Lamb. Amen.

### **COLLECT FOR THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:**

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; 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: *Cheryl Bodkin* and her loved ones

*Carole Cameron*, friend of the Martins, who is ill

*Robert Pitman*, friend of the Pedersens, who is being treated for cancer

*Eric & Katie Rudsenske & Child*, as the baby continues to grow through pregnancy

## **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.