



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 20 through August 26, 2023*

We are all the child of the Canaanite woman spoken of in this Gospel reading, for we have all been filled with Satan and his lies, and none of us are deserving of the Bread of the Lord's table. Yet with repentance comes faith, and with faith comes forgiveness, life, and salvation, for such the Lord offers to even the lowliest among us, the dogs of this world, eaters of carrion, now made diners in the house of God.

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, August 20	Psalms 51:1-8	2 Sam. 12:1-25	1 Cor. 12:1-13
Monday, August 21	Psalms 139:13-16, 23-24	1 Kings 1:1-4, 15-35	1 Cor. 12:14-31
Tuesday, August 22	Psalms 97:6-12	1 Kings 2:1-27	1 Cor. 13:1-13
Wednesday, August 23	Psalms 111:1-3, 9-10	1 Kings 3:1-15	2 Cor. 1:1-22
Thursday, August 24	Psalms 27:1, 7-11	1 Kings 5:1-18	2 Cor. 1:23-2:17
Friday, August 25	Psalms 32:1-7	1 Kings 7:51-8:21	2 Cor. 3:1-18
Saturday, August 26	Psalms 36:7-12	1 Kings 8:22-30, 46-63	2 Cor. 4:1-18

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – AUGUST 20, 2023

Theme: We are unworthy of the gifts we receive from God, yet in humility, we approach our Lord, and He gives us every good thing.

Hymn: 615, “When in the Hour of Deepest Need”

Summary of Readings:

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8: The Lord proclaims His salvation for all who *join themselves to Him*, to all who submit to Him, call on His name, and hold fast to His promises. Those who *keep justice* (treasure His judgment) and *do righteousness* (turn from their sin to have His forgiveness) will be gathered to His holy mountain for life everlasting.

Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32: God sent His Son to save the Israelites, but by their rejection and crucifixion of Jesus, the whole world has now been reconciled to God. As a result, all who repent and confess Jesus rightly will be saved, Jew and Gentile alike.

Matthew 15:21-28: Jesus was sent “only for the lost sheep of Israel.” But as we learn from the Canaanite woman, all who “join themselves to the Lord” through faith, falling before him, calling on His name, and trusting in His promises will receive His gifts that set us free from sin and death. Kyrie Eleison; “Lord, have mercy.”

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Psalms 73:26: “My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: SECOND PETITION II

(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.)

Thy kingdom come.

How does God's kingdom come? God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 67 (ESV)

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

¹May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, ²that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations. ³Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! ⁴Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. ⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! ⁶The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us. ⁷God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 67¹:

Praise and thanks be to our God for calling us of the Gentiles into the kingdom of His dear Son, and making us partakers of His grace and salvation. May He grant us grace to walk worthy of the Gospel whereby we are called, and to serve Him in joy and gladness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; 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: *Charles Cowards* and his loved ones

Hunter Burkhalter, Chris's nephew, who will have his leg amputated next week

Cheryl Lloyd, who is recovering from hip surgery

Bert Marshall, friend of the Haynes and Pedersens, who is recovering from a stroke

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.