



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 3 through September 9, 2023*

Peter has confessed Jesus to be the Christ, but he knows not what this means. He imagines that Jesus shall establish an earthly kingdom, in power and might. But Jesus must take the way of the cross, not the path of glory. Peter rejects this, but the Lord rebukes Peter, as well as all who would prevent Him from saving us through His Passion and Resurrection. His power is not diminished by undergoing suffering. Rather, through suffering, Christ is able to manifest His true divine power in His conquest of sin, death, and hell.

### **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, Sept. 3	Psalm 119:57-64	1 Kings 19:1-22:53	Eph. 3:1-21
Monday, Sept. 4	Psalm 90:13-17	2 Kings 2:1-18	Eph. 4:1-24
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Psalm 56:8-13	2 Kings 2:19-25; 4:1-7	Eph. 4:25-5:14
Wednesday, Sept. 6	Psalm 127	2 Kings 4:8-22, 32-37	Eph. 5:15-33
Thursday, Sept. 7	Psalm 131	2 Kings 4:38-5:8	Eph. 6:1-24
Friday, Sept. 8	Psalm 71:12-16	2 Kings 5:9-27	Phil. 1:1-20
Saturday, Sept. 9	Psalm 61	2 Kings 6:1-23	Phil. 1:21-2:11

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

**Theme:** Our Lord has come into this world to suffer all things in a great war against the unholy trinity of sin, death, and the devil.

**Hymn:** 332, “Savior of the Nations, Come”

### Summary of Readings:

**Jeremiah 15:15-21:** Jeremiah prays that the Lord will defend him against an unrepentant people as he suffers for the sake of preaching God’s word.

**Romans 12:9-21:** St. Paul exhorts all Christians to true godliness and humility; to be kind, patient, joyful, hospitable, merciful, and to, above all, not let envy, anger, vengeance, or strife occupy our hearts and minds. Rather, we are to repay those who sin against us with love.

**Matthew 16:21-28:** Christ shows that He must go the way of suffering in order to accomplish redemption for mankind on the cross. He then teaches that all who would call themselves His followers too must follow Him in suffering. All who follow Christ shall have the pattern of their life conformed to that of Christ’s.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**Proverbs 3:11-12:** “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor detest His correction; for whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights.”

## **THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: THIRD 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 will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

*How is God's will done?* God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 26 (ESV)**

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

<sup>1</sup>Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering. <sup>2</sup>Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind. <sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness. <sup>4</sup>I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites. <sup>5</sup>I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked. <sup>6</sup>I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD, <sup>7</sup>proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds. <sup>8</sup>O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells. <sup>9</sup>Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men, <sup>10</sup>in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes. <sup>11</sup>But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me. <sup>12</sup>My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.

## **LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 26<sup>1</sup>:**

Lord Jesus, abide with us in these latter evil days. Grant to Your Church true shepherds and faithful pastors who preach Your Word in its purity, and who lead us in the way of truth. Preserve our souls from being deluded by worldly wisdom and the teaching of men who walk after their own thoughts, and keep up steadfast in Your Word to our end. Amen.

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

Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, 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: *Curt & Lesley Dickens* and their loved ones

*Hunter Burkhalter*, Chris's nephew, who is recovering from a successful leg amputation

*Max McGuire*, friend of the Haynes, who is being treated for bone cancer

*Gary Stoeckmann*, friend of the Weidners, who is ill

## **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.