



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Feast of St. Michael & All Angels
September 24 through September 30, 2023*

We are all born into creation as a servant of Satan, the prince of this world. It is by his rules and his schemes that we all operate. Yet in baptism, we are delivered out of his kingdom and into the rule of Christ, defended by His angels, and joining in His war against all unrighteousness, for the Gospel is not merely the Good News of our salvation from sin, but the Good News of Christ's victory over evil.

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. 24	Psalm 123	Neh. 9:22-38	1 Tim 6:3-21
Monday, Sept. 25	Psalm 51:5-13	Mal. 1:1-14	Matt. 3:1-17
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Psalm 16	Mal. 2:1-3:5	Matt. 4:1-11
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Psalm 91:9-16	Mal. 3:6-4:6	Matt. 4:12-25
Thursday, Sept. 28	Psalm 145:17-21	Deut. 1:1-18	Matt. 5:1-20
Friday, Sept. 29	Psalm 19:7-14	Deut. 1:19-36	Matt. 5:21-48
Saturday, Sept. 30	Psalm 119:161-168	Deut. 1:37-2:15	Matt. 6:1-15

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

Theme: The Christian never fights against Satan alone, but with Christ, the Church, and the Holy Angels.

Hymn: 521, “Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken”

Summary of Readings:

Daniel 10:10-14, 12:1-3: Daniel receives a prophecy concerning the guardianship of the Archangel Michael.

Revelation 12:7-12: St. John describes the battle in heaven between St. Michael and the angels against the devil and his fallen angels, and how Satan and his host were cast out of heaven onto the earth.

Luke: 10:17-20: The Seventy-Two return to Christ, rejoicing that they were able to cast out demons in the name of Jesus. Jesus reminds them not to rejoice in the power they have received through Him, but rather to rejoice in their salvation.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Psalm 73:26: “My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD’S PRAYER: FIFTH PETITION

(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.)

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 91 (ESV)

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

¹He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. ²I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” ³For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. ⁴He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. ⁵You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, ⁶nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. ⁷A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. ⁸You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. ⁹Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge— ¹⁰no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. ¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. ¹²On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. ¹³You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot. ¹⁴“Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. ¹⁵When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. ¹⁶With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.”

LUTHER’S PRAYER ON PSALM 91¹:

Lord Jesus Christ, the Author and Finisher of faith, grant us the true and saving faith, and preserve us in the same against all temptations to doubt and unbelief. Blot out our iniquities by Your blood; cover our sins with Your righteousness, and let Your angels be a fenced wall around us against all our enemies, and evermore teach us to know the secret of Your Father’s will. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS:

Everlasting God, You have ordained and constituted the service of angels and men in a wonderful order. Mercifully grant that, as Your holy angels always serve and worship You in heaven, so by Your appointment they may also help and defend us here on earth; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, 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: *Cecelia Dorsey* and her loved ones

Robert Grimm, Sister Sara's childhood pastor, who has blood clots in his lungs

Anita Martin, who awaits the results of medical tests

Dane & Jessie Pedersen, the Pedersen's son and his wife, as they begin married life

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.