



Living from the Liturgy

A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 22 through October 28, 2023*

We place the image of great men upon our money, for to us, money and all that it buys – wealth, honor, influence, and respect – are the greatest of things. But God has chosen to place His image not on currency, nor on anything forged by hands, but within every human being, even as He did with Adam and Eve. To Caesar, we are therefore charged to surrender whatever is Caesar’s, that is, whatever is worldly, and we should do so without protest, for all such worldly things are passing and meaningless. But to God we give what is God’s, what bears His image: that is to say, our very selves. For apart from God, this alone among created things has value.

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, Oct. 22	Psalm 62	Deut. 21:1-23	Matt. 16:1-12
Monday, Oct. 23	Psalm 107:10-16	Deut. 24:10-25:10	Matt. 16:13-28
Tuesday, Oct. 24	Psalm 99	Deut. 25:17-26:19	Matt. 17:1-13
Wednesday, Oct.25	Psalm 93	Deut. 27:1-26	Matt. 17:14-27
Thursday, Oct. 26	Psalm 12	Deut. 28:1-22	Matt. 18:1-20
Friday, Oct. 27	Psalm 20	Deut. 29:1-29	Matt. 18:21-35
Saturday, Oct. 28	Psalm 127	Deut. 30:1-20	Matt. 19:1-15

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – OCTOBER 22, 2023

Theme: We are to devote our very human nature to God alone, who is the only thing of worth.

Hymn: 810, “O God of God, O Light of Light”

Summary of Readings:

Isaiah 45:1-7: The Lord chose Cyrus by name and equipped him for victory over the enemies of His people, transforming him from pagan warlord to savior of God’s people, giving him a new face that would be remembered throughout history.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10: God chose the Thessalonians and called them by His Gospel, changing the face of their affliction to the face of joy that shined everywhere throughout the ancient world.

Matthew 22:15-22: In the same way that Caesar would receive back the coin bearing his image and inscription, God will have back everything bearing His image and inscription: “In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

2 Corinthians 5:21: “For our sake God made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.”

THE CATECHISM: BAPTISM (PART I)

(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 Baptism? Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.

Which is that word of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew:

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matt. 28:19)

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 96:1-9 (ESV)

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

¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! ²Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. ³Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! ⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. ⁵For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. ⁶Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! ⁹Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 96¹:

Thanks to You, O Father of Light, for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to establish a kingdom of grace and forgiveness among men on this earth. By Your Spirit make us new creatures in heart, mind, soul, and sentiment, and teach us to sing the new song of this new kingdom with rejoicing and gladness, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; 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: *The Gallarno Family* and their loved ones

The Family of Nathan Higgs, Glen Hansford's coworker, who has entered eternal rest

Todd Jardee, friend of Mark Ochs, who is recovering from heart surgery

Nora and Teresa Klager, newborn twins of the Haynes' nephew, as they continue to grow

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.