



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Second Sunday in Lent
February 25 through March 2, 2024*

In whom do you believe? Many will say 'I believe in God.' But do they dare to say that they believe in the God that bleeds, that suffers, that died for them? If you are a Christian, then this is the only God you know, and there is none other. During the Season of Lent, we devote our attention to the God who suffers, even unto death, for His beloved people.

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, Feb. 25	Psalm 112	Job 20:1-23, 29	John 8:21-38
Monday, Feb. 26	Psalm 3	Job 21:1-21	John 8:39-59
Tuesday, Feb. 27	Psalm 146:5-10	Job 30:16-31	John 9:1-23
Wednesday, Feb. 28	Psalm 66:8-12, 16-20	Job 31:1-12, 33-40	John 9:24-41
Thursday, Feb. 29	Psalm 23	Job 32:1-22	John 10:1-21
Friday, Mar. 1	Psalm 82	Job 33:1-18	John 10:22-42
Saturday, Mar. 2	Psalm 116:1-9	Job 33:19—34:9	John 11:1-16

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Theme: Christians believe in a God who suffers for them.

Hymn: 419, “Savior, When in Dust to Thee”

Summary of Readings:

Genesis 17:1–7: God makes His covenant with Abram, and renames him Abraham.

Romans 5:1–11: St. Paul explains with great clarity that we are justified through faith, by the grace of God, won by Our Lord Jesus Christ, apart from any merit of our own.

Mark 8:27–38: St. Peter makes his great confession: ‘You are the Christ.’ Yet soon after, he forbids Jesus to die for our salvation. Our Lord replies, ‘Get behind me, Satan.’ For Our Lord knows that the Son of Man must suffer if we are to be saved.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Romans 5:8: “God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

THE CATECHISM: THE NINTH COMMANDMENT

(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 the Ninth Commandment? **You shall not covet your neighbor's house.***

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 22:23-31 (ESV)

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

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! ²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. ²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. ²⁸For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. ²⁹All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. ³⁰Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; ³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 22¹:

Merciful and kind are You, O Lord of hosts, because You have sent the Gospel of Your Son to us Gentiles. Our fathers went to worship idols as they were led, but to us, their children, You have sent the light, though we deserved it not. Cause it to dwell richly with our children and us, and by Your Spirit make it to grow in our hearts and bring fruit unto eternal life. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT:

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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: *Jo Miller* and her loved ones

Hunter Burkhalter, a member of Good Shepherd, who has come home after receiving extensive cancer treatments and recovering from a leg amputation

Jo Beth Ray, Gloria Pedersen's cousin, who seems to be in her last days

Nicole Tatum, Nancy's daughter-in-law, who has been diagnosed with cancer

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.