



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Third Sunday in Lent
March 3 through March 9, 2024*

Jesus enters into the temple with a scourge made of cords, not to cleanse it, but to destroy it, for no longer will it be the place of atonement for His people. His own body shall become the place of atonement, of forgiveness, and it is for this reason that Christ has come to Jerusalem: to offer Himself *'as a sacrifice for many.'*

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, March 3	Psalm 129	Gen. 27:30-45; 28:10-22	Mark 9:1-13
Monday, March 4	Psalm 38:13-15, 21-22	Gen. 29:1-30	Mark 9:14-32
Tuesday, March 5	Psalm 105:5-11	Gen. 35:1-29	Mark 9:33-50
Wednesday, March 6	Psalm 31:1-5	Gen. 37:1-36	Mark 10:1-12
Thursday, March 7	Psalm 106:44-48	Gen. 39:1-23	Mark 10:13-31
Friday, March 8	Psalm 49:1-3, 7-10	Gen. 40:1-23	Mark 10:32-52
Saturday, March 9	Psalm 11	Gen. 41:1-27	Mark 11:1-19

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – MARCH 3, 2024

Theme: Christ is the new temple, and in His coming, He does away with the old.

Hymn: 981, “To Your Temple, Lord, I Come”

Summary of Readings:

Exodus 20:1-17: Moses gives the Ten Commandments.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31: St. Paul declares the glory of the Wisdom of God, which is foolishness to men, yet which puts man’s wisdom to shame.

John 2:13-22: Our Lord clears the temple, destroying the courts of the money-changers. He then declares that His own body shall be a new temple which, if destroyed, shall be rebuilt in three days.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

John 2:19: “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

THE CATECHISM: THE TENTH 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 Tenth Commandment? You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 19 (ESV)

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

¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. ²Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. ³There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. ⁴Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, ⁵which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. ⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat. ⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; ⁸the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; ⁹the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. ¹¹Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. ¹²Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. ¹³Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 19¹:

Lord Jesus, You are the Sun of righteousness with healing in His wings. Enlighten our darkened understanding by Your Holy Word. Enkindle our hearts and mold our will to walk in faith, love, and hope unto all pleasing. Let the light of Your Gospel shine on the nations that sit in darkness, and preserve Your Church to the day of Your coming. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT:

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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: *Jenny Merry* and her loved ones

Blair Alford, Katie Rudenske's father, who is undergoing medical tests

Faye Hartman, Nancy Teal's sister-in-law, who has been hospitalized

Sherri Smith, who was in the hospital last week

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.