



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Feast of Pentecost
May 19 through May 25, 2024*

Apart from the Word of God we are nothing. It is only by the *sword of the Spirit*, that is, the Word of the Living God that we are able to join in God's great army. By this Word, we are given life, and *though we die, yet we shall still live*. On Pentecost, this Word is given not only to the Jews, but the Gentiles, and all believers ever since, creating a universal Church, a true People of God, led by our champion, Christ, the Lord.

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, May 19	Psalm 135:8-14	Num. 21:10-35	Luke 21:20-38
Monday, May 20	Psalm 128	Num. 22:1-20	Luke 22:1-23
Tuesday, May 21	Psalm 94:8-14	Num. 22:21—23:3	Luke 22:24-46
Wednesday, May 22	Psalm 22:19-26	Num. 23:4-28	Luke 22:47-71
Thursday, May 23	Psalm 1	Num. 24:1-25	Luke 23:1-25
Friday, May 24	Psalm 132:8-12	Num. 27:12-23	Luke 23:26-56
Saturday, May 25	Psalm 97:6-12	Num. 32:1-6, 16-27	Luke 24:1-27

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – MAY 19, 2024

Theme: On Pentecost, the Word of God is given to all believers, that by it we may have eternal life.

Hymn: 768, “To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray”

Summary of Readings:

Ezekiel 37:1–14: God commands Ezekiel to prophesy over the dry bones of the valley, and by this prophesy, the bones are resurrected and given new life.

Acts 2:1–21: The Holy Spirit descends upon the Apostles, and they speak in tongues, preaching the Gospel to all nations, and converting many.

John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15: Christ promises the coming of the Helper, which is the Holy Spirit, who will guide His Church after His Resurrection and Ascension.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

1 Corinthians 12:3: “No one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.”

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: FIRST 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.)

Hallowed be Thy name.

How is God's name kept holy? God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 139:1-13: (ESV)

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

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me! ²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. ³You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. ⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. ⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it. ⁷Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? ⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! ⁹If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, ¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. ¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," ¹²even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you. ¹³For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 139¹:

To You, O God, belong praise and glory for Your wonderful providence, that You are present with all Your creatures, and preserve them in their being. Teach us to remember at all times and all places that Your eyes are upon us, and that all our deeds are recorded in Your book. Blot out the sins that are past with the blood of Christ, and cause us to walk in Your fear, and to avoid sin. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF PENTECOST:

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; 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: *Leslie Riddlehoover* and her loved ones

Sabrina Goodlett, who is recovering from surgery

Anita Martin, who received good results from a scan for cancer

Jon Sandberg, Merina Hansen's brother, who is being treated for sepsis

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.