



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
July 7 through July 13, 2024*

The crowds followed Our Lord wherever He went, yet they did not always follow out of admiration. They followed to mock and ridicule Him. We too, who call ourselves Christians, mock Our Lord. We may not do it in the most outright way. But we ignore His teachings, gloss over others, explain away the ones that seem most offensive, while remembering only those that make us feel happy. Yet Jesus was a man of offense, and came to offend our worldly-wise sensibilities. Yet He does not condemn us for our frailty, for our embarrassment in bearing His name. Rather, He mediates on behalf of us before the Father, beseeching Him that we be forgiven, even as we rebuke His everlasting name.

### **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, July 7	Psalm 2:1-8	Judg. 2:6-23	Acts 13:13-41
Monday, July 8	Psalm 16:5-11	Judg. 3:7-31	Acts 13:42-52
Tuesday, July 9	Psalm 138:1-6	Judg. 4:1-24	Acts 14:1-18
Wednesday, July 10	Psalm 125	Judg. 6:1-24	Acts 14:19— 15:5
Thursday, July 11	Psalm 5:1-8	Judg. 6:25-40	Acts 15:6-21
Friday, July 12	Psalm 118:10-18	Judg. 7:1-23	Gal. 1:1-24
Saturday, July 13	Psalm 71:1-8	Judg. 13:1-25	Gal. 2:1-21

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JULY 7, 2024

**Theme:** Though we are offended by many teachings of Our Lord, yet this teaching of His triumphs over all our doubt and worry: the forgiveness of all our sin.

**Hymn:** 544, “O Love, How Deep”

### Summary of Readings:

**Ezekiel 2:1–5:** The Lord sends Ezekiel as a prophet to Israel, knowing that they will not receive him. Yet, even if they do not receive him, they will be without excuse, for they will know that a prophet of God came to them, speaking His Word.

**2 Corinthians 12:1–10:** St. Paul boasts in his weakness, for in the weakness of men, God’s might is made manifest.

**Mark 6:1–13:** Jesus returns to His hometown, only to be scolded by His friends and relatives. From there, He sends out the Twelve to do His will on His behalf, casting out demons and preaching the Gospel.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**Romans 6:23:** “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

## **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 123 (ESV)**

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

<sup>1</sup>To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! <sup>2</sup>Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us. <sup>3</sup>Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. <sup>4</sup>Our soul has had more than enough of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

### **LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 123<sup>1</sup>:**

Lord Jesus, seated at the right hand of Your Father, a Lord over heaven and earth, restrain the enemies of Your Church, and uphold Your faithful followers. Let not the scorn of the world and the mockery of the proud cause us to fall away from You, but grant us courage to confess Your name unto our end, and cause the wicked to see Your power and the upright to see Your truth. Amen.

### **COLLECT FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:**

O God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy. Grant us the fullness of Your grace that we may be called to repentance and made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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<sup>1</sup> 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: *Matt Stewart* and his loved ones

*The Kettler Family*, upon the birth of their daughter Rivers Elise

*Sherri Smith*, as she continues to recover from a successful liver transplant

*The Family of Garrett Ward*, friend of the Pedersens, who has entered eternal rest

## **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.