



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 21 through July 27, 2024*

Life is full of suffering, a suffering which we seek to distract ourselves from by any means necessary. And yet, despite our distractions, this suffering abides. Jesus does not promise an end to our earthly sufferings. Rather, He promises to also abide with us in their midst.

### **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 21	Psalm 106:1-5	1 Sam. 4:1-22	Acts 16:23-40
Monday, July 22	Psalm 137:1-7	1 Sam. 5:1—6:3, 10-16	Acts 18:1-11, 23-28
Tuesday, July 23	Psalm 119:113-120	1 Sam. 6:19—7:17	Acts 19:1-22
Wednesday, July 24	Psalm 24:7-10	1 Sam. 8:1-22	Acts 21:15-36
Thursday, July 25	Psalm 63:1-8	1 Sam. 9:1-27	Acts 21:37— 22:16
Friday, July 26	Psalm 69:30-35	1 Sam. 10:1-27	Acts 22:17-29
Saturday, July 27	Psalm 119:17-24	1 Sam. 12:1-25	Acts 22:30-23:11

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JULY 21, 2024

**Theme:** Christ is with us in the midst of this world of suffering.

**Hymn:** 709, “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

### Summary of Readings:

**Jeremiah 23:1–6:** Jeremiah the prophet preaches against the priests and Levites who were to be the shepherds of Israel for failing in their God-given mission, and promises that a greater priest shall come which shall accomplish the will of God.

**Ephesians 2:11–22:** St. Paul teaches that in the coming of Christ, the wall between Jew and Gentile has been abolished, as well as the wall between man and God. In Christ, all humanity has access to the Father.

**Mark 6:30–44:** Jesus feeds the five-thousand who followed Him out into the wilderness.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**1 Timothy 1:15:** “This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the chief.”

## **THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: SEVENTH 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.)*

### **But deliver us from evil.**

*What does this mean?* We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 23 (ESV)**

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

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. <sup>3</sup>He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

## **LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 23<sup>1</sup>:**

Lord Jesus, who alone is that one Good Shepherd, thanks be unto You for all Your spiritual and bodily benefits. Let the Word of Your salvation dwell among us richly, and suffer not that trusty staff, the word of Your promise, to be taken from us. And when the shadow of death spreads over us, conduct us safely to the fold of the perfected saints, the tabernacle not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Amen.

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

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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: *Nancy Teal* and her loved ones

*The Family of Ray Goodman*, friend of the Haynes, who has entered eternal rest

*The Family of Kay Gunther*, friend of the Pedersens, who has entered eternal rest

*Mark Roberson*, the Weidners' son, who has traveled to Togo, West Africa, on a mission trip

## **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.