



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 4 through August 10, 2024*

Even as the Israelites followed the pillar of fire and cloud into the desert after the Exodus, and even as the Jews followed Jesus to the banks of the sea of Tiberius, not understanding why they were following in either case, so too must we follow Our Lord into the desert, away from the comforts of this world, to seek Him. For even as it is written '*seek, and ye shall find,*' so it is that we must seek our Lord, forsaking worldly things; and only in seeking Him will we find in Him true understanding.

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, August 4	Psalm 56:1-4	1 Sam. 18:10-30	Acts 27:27-44
Monday, August 5	Psalm 21:1-7	1 Sam. 19:1-24	Acts 28:1-15
Tuesday, August 6	Psalm 92:1-9	1 Sam. 20:1-23	Acts 28:16-31
Wednesday, August 7	Psalm 144:3-10	1 Sam. 20:24-42	1 Cor. 1:1-25
Thursday, August 8	Psalm 62:1-7	1 Sam. 24:1-22	1 Cor. 1:26— 2:16
Friday, August 9	Psalm 94:8-15	1 Sam. 25:1-22	1 Cor. 3:1-23
Saturday, August 10	Psalm 14	1 Sam. 25:23-44	1 Cor. 4:1-21

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – AUGUST 4, 2024

Theme: Seek Christ, and in Him you will find every good thing, though it may not be immediately apparent.

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

Summary of Readings:

Exodus 16:2–15: God feeds His people with manna in the wilderness.

Ephesians 4:1–16: St. Paul exhorts the Church to recognize that in Christ they are one body, and that therefore they should put away from themselves all divisive desires, but rather love one another, and always work to build one another up.

John 6:22–35: Christ is followed by the crowd to the other side of the sea of Tiberius where he begins to instruct the people about the True Bread from Heaven, which is Himself

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

John 6:51: “I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

THE CATECHISM: BAPTISM (PART I)

(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 Baptism? Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.

Which is that word of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew:

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matt. 28:19)

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 145:10-21 (ESV)

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

¹⁰All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you! ¹¹They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, ¹²to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. ¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. [The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.] ¹⁴The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. ¹⁵The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. ¹⁶You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. ¹⁷The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. ¹⁸The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. ¹⁹He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them. ²⁰The LORD preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. ²¹My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

LUTHER'S INTRODUCTION TO PSALM 145¹:

The 145th psalm is a psalm of thanks for the kingdom of Christ, which was to come. It strongly urges the high, exalted work of praising God and glorifying His power and kingdom. For Christ's kingdom and power are hidden under the cross. If the cross were not extolled through preaching, teaching, and confession, who could have ever thought of it, to say nothing of knowing it? But such is His kingdom and power, that He aided the fallen, called the needy to Himself, made sinners godly, and brought the dead to life. Yes, He is the one who gives food to all, who hears the call of His saints, does what they desire, and protects them.

COLLECT FOR THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Merciful Father, You gave Your Son Jesus as the heavenly bread of life. Grant us faith to feast on Him in Your Word and Sacraments that we may be nourished unto life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, 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: *Leonard Watson* and his loved ones

Charlie Green, friend of the Hansfords, who has been diagnosed with cancer

Vera Loose, the wife of a former Christ Lutheran pastor, who is recovering from surgery

Terry Zeigler, cousin of Mark Ochs, who is undergoing cancer treatment

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.