



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 11 through August 17, 2024*

Christ calls Himself the Bread of Life, yet this is a very strange title compared to Christ's many other glorious names. Wisdom, Life, The Way, The Prince of Peace—these we are used to calling Our Lord. But why now 'bread'? It is because Adam was originally cursed with the making of bread, but now Our Lord becomes Himself another kind of bread; not a bread of sin, but a Bread of Life.

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 11	Psalm 51:10-13	1 Sam. 26:1-25	1 Cor. 5:1-13
Monday, August 12	Psalm 99:1-5	1 Sam. 28:3-25	1 Cor. 6:1-20
Tuesday, August 13	Psalm 68:1-6	1 Sam. 31:1-13	1 Cor. 7:1-24
Wednesday, August 14	Psalm 33:13-21	2 Sam. 1:1-27	1 Cor. 7:25-40
Thursday, August 15	Psalm 132:11-18	2 Sam. 5:1-25	1 Cor. 8:1-13
Friday, August 16	Psalm 11	2 Sam. 6:1-19	1 Cor. 9:1-23
Saturday, August 17	Psalm 24:1-6	2 Sam. 7:1-17	1 Cor. 9:24-10:22

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – AUGUST 11, 2024

Theme: Christ has fulfilled what Adam could not, and become for us the Bread of Eternal Life.

Hymn: 544, “O Love, How Deep”

Summary of Readings:

1 Kings 19:1–8: Elijah flees from the murderous Jezebel, but grows weak in the wilderness. The Lord, however, provides him with food and water to sustain him in his journey.

Eph. 4:17—5:2: St. Paul, encouraging the Church in the way of life befitting true Christians, encourages us to make our own the mind of Christ.

John 6:35–51: Our Lord explains to a grumbling people that He is the Bread of Life, a bread superior to the manna given to the Israelites in the wilderness.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Psalm 2:10-11: ‘Now therefore, O Kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.’

THE CATECHISM: BAPTISM (PART 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.)

What benefits does Baptism give? It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:16)

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 34:1-8 (ESV)

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

¹I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. ²My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. ³Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together! ⁴I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. ⁵Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. ⁶This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. ⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. ⁸Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

LUTHER’S PRAYER ON PSALM 34¹:

O God, Spirit of truth, who spoke of old by kings and prophets, enlighten the eyes of our understanding, that we may read aright the psalms of Your servant David, learning from them that Jesus of Nazareth is He of whom the Scriptures spoke. Cause us ever more clearly to see that He, and He alone, is the Savior of our souls, that our heart may cling to Him alone. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Gracious Father, Your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in Him, 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: *John & Celia Weidner* and their loved ones

CB, friend of Barbara Glenn, who suffered a brain aneurism

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

Leslie Thomas, friend of the Weidners, who was hospitalized

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.