



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 6 through October 12, 2024*

It is the desire of God that man might not be alone. This is declared in the book of Genesis when the Lord institutes marriage. Yet we are narrow minded if we believe that such loneliness is cured simply by finding a good spouse, for St. Paul himself teaches us that holy marriage itself is but an image of the true mystery of Christ and the Church, of the final reconciliation of God, man, and all creation. Yet fallen man seeks only loneliness, for in it he believes he will find freedom: freedom from love, and with it, freedom from all obligation. Therefore Christ has come to accomplish what He first desired from mankind, that we not be alone, but find our completion in His love for us, and in our faith in Him and love for all His creatures.

### **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, Oct. 3	Psalm 119:9-16	Deut. 4:1-20	Matt. 7:13-29
Monday, Oct. 4	Psalm 80:1-7	Deut. 4:21-40	Matt. 8:1-17
Tuesday, Oct. 5	Psalm 86:1-10	Deut. 5:1-21	Matt. 8:18-34
Wednesday, Oct. 6	Psalm 91:9-16	Deut. 5:22-6:9	Matt. 9:1-17
Thursday, Oct. 7	Psalm 121	Deut. 6:10-25	Matt. 9:18-38
Friday, Oct. 8	Psalm 126	Deut. 7:1-19	Matt. 10:1-23
Saturday, Oct. 9	Psalm 103:1-10	Deut. 8:1-20	Matt. 10:24-42

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – OCTOBER 6, 2024

**Theme:** Christ has come to abolish our loneliness through the realization of His love.

**Hymn:** 564, “Christ Sits at God’s Right Hand”

### Summary of Readings:

**Genesis 2:18–25:** God creates woman from the rib of Adam, that she might be bone of his bone, and flesh of his flesh, a helpmeet and partner proper to him, and him to her.

**Hebrews 2:1–13:** In Christ, our humanity has been redeemed, and by His grace, we are made his brethren, and fellow children of God the Father.

**Mark 10:2–16:** Christ is tested by the Pharisees about whether a man may divorce his wife. Having silenced them, He blesses the children brought to Him, for to such as them belongs the kingdom of God.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5:** “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.”

## **THE CATECHISM: THE 1<sup>ST</sup> COMMANDMENT**

*(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 the First Commandment? **You shall have no other gods.***

*What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.*

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 128 (ESV)**

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

<sup>1</sup>Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! <sup>2</sup>You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you. <sup>3</sup>Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. <sup>4</sup>Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD. <sup>5</sup>The LORD bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life! <sup>6</sup>May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel!

## **LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 128<sup>1</sup>:**

Thanks be to You, our God, for instituting the holy estate of matrimony and preserving it for so many ages against the assaults of that apostate spirit which is an enemy of all that is pure and godly. Make every house Your temple. Fashion the hearts of husband and wife to love children, and cause both parents and children to walk in the faith of Your Son, and be saved. Amen.

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

Merciful Father, Your patience and loving-kindness toward us have no end. Grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may always think and do those things that are pleasing in Your sight; 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: *Wyatt Côté* and his loved ones

*The Family and Friends of Wayne McDermott*, friend of the Rudsenskés, who has entered eternal rest

*The Family and Friends of Robert Kelly*, friend of the Weidners, who has entered eternal rest

*Those recovering from Hurricane Helene*

## **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.