



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 10 through November 16, 2024*

The Lord teaches His disciples as He watches the poor widow give of her poverty two mites to the treasury. He praises her for giving all she has, even her life. It is easy for us to understand this passage as simply commending the widow for giving as much as possible, while the Pharisees and the rich give merely what is convenient. Yet this does not seem to be what Jesus is getting at. Rather, He seems to be preparing the Disciples for their fate, that they too, like widows, will give the last of all they have, even their life, for they will follow the way of Christ, who was first to have lost everything, and to regain it, give away even more, even His flesh and blood and soul into the grip of hell, that there He might preach the Gospel, and win for us eternal salvation.

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, Nov. 10	Psalm 24	Jer. 23:1-20	Matt. 25:14-30
Monday, Nov. 11	Psalm 143:1-10	Jer. 23:21-40	Matt. 25:31-46
Tuesday, Nov. 12	Psalm 137	Jer. 25:1-18	Matt. 26:1-19
Wednesday, Nov. 13	Psalm 116:12-19	Jer. 26:1-19	Matt. 26:20-35
Thursday, Nov. 14	Psalm 53	Jer. 29:1-19	Matt. 26:36-56
Friday, Nov. 15	Psalm 51:10-19	Jer. 30:1-24	Matt. 26:57-75
Saturday, Nov. 16	Psalm 54	Jer. 31:1-34	Matt. 27:1-10

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – NOVEMBER 10, 2024

Theme: The widow is Christ, who has lost that which He loves, and so gives away whatever He has left, even His life, to the Father.

Hymn: 787, “The Temple Rang with Golden Coins”

Summary of Readings:

1 Kings 17:8–16: Elijah goes to the widow of Zarephath who has enough flour to make but one last meal before she and her child starve. Miraculously, God provides sufficient flour to the widow that not only are they able to eat, but also are able to feed Elijah for many days.

Hebrews 9:24–28: Christ is the sacrifice, made once for all, never to be repeated, by which we are fully justified before God the Father.

Mark 12:38–44: Jesus rebukes the ways of the scribes, and commends the widow who gave all she possessed to the Temple treasury.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Mark 10:7-9: “‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

THE CATECHISM: THE 6TH 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 Sixth Commandment? **You shall not commit adultery.***

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 146 (ESV)

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

¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! ²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. ³Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. ⁴When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. ⁵Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, ⁶who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; ⁷who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; ⁸the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. ⁹The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. ¹⁰The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 146¹:

Many times have You, O Lord, our God, been our help in the time of need. Many times You have guarded us in danger and kept us from evil. Thanks and praise to You for Your merciful kindness. Withdraw not Your hand from us because of our sins, but remember Your great mercy, and let Your grace and help be with us at all times, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Grant us so firmly to believe in Your Son Jesus that our faith may never be found wanting; 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: *Cecelia Dorsey* and her loved ones

Blair Alford, in-law of the Rudsenskies, who is undergoing cancer treatment

The Family and Friends of Gerald Jones, friend of the Martins, who has entered eternal rest

Mary O'Gwynn, friend of the Pedersens, who is recovering from a fall

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.