



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 19 through January 25, 2025*

It would seem that the Lord rebukes His mother when she comes to Him for help at the Wedding of Cana. Yet, far from sending her away empty handed, our Lord hears her plea, and answers her request, and in so doing gives the chief and governing miracle by which all His work is to be understood.

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, Jan. 19	Psalm 15	Ezek. 44:1-16, 23-29	Rom. 9:1-18
Monday, Jan. 20	Psalm 117	Ezek. 47:1-14, 21-23	Rom. 9:19-33
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Psalm 20	Joel 1:1-20	Rom 10:1-21
Wednesday, Jan. 22	Psalm 69:19-23, 32-33	Joel 2:1-17	Rom. 11:1-24
Thursday, Jan. 23	Psalm 139:1-6, 12-14	Joel 2:18-32	Rom. 11:25—12:13
Friday, Jan. 24	Psalm 131	Joel 3:1-21	Rom. 12:14—13:14
Saturday, Jan. 25	Psalm 6:4-10	Zech. 1:1-21	Rom. 14:1-23

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JANUARY 19, 2025

Theme: In turning the water into wine at Cana, the Lord reveals His redemptive work.

Hymn: 636, “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”

Summary of Readings:

Isaiah 62:1-15: God pledges to redeem Israel and marry her to himself, prospering her forever, and bringing her forth in righteousness.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11: Paul teaches that the primary gift of the Spirit is that we, the baptized, are able to pronounce in truth that ‘Jesus is Lord.’ Yet besides this greatest gift, there are other gifts given to some for the sake of the Church, that she might always be instructed and never die.

John 2:1-11: Jesus turns water into wine at wedding in the town of Cana, thus initiating His earthly ministry by this sign, which designates His entire ministry as the fulfillment of His betrothal to Israel.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

John 3:16: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

THE CATECHISM: THE APOSTLE'S CREED: SECOND ARTICLE (PART 2)

(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 does this mean? I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

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:

¹Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways!

²You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.

³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

⁴Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD.

⁵The LORD bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life!

⁶May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 128¹:

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 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY:

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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: *Terry Hubmann* and his loved ones

Terry Swisher, Margaret Haynes' brother-in-law, who is ill

The Family of Leslie Thomas, friend of the Weidners, who has entered eternal rest

All those affected by the fires in California

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.