



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
February 23 through March 1, 2025*

Our Lord continues to teach His disciples, commanding them to love their enemies, to turn the other cheek when struck, and to give more than what is even taken from them. For sinful men, this is impossible; but not for Christ, for in His ministry, He will accomplish all of these things. By doing so, He undoes the old sinful man, who could not truly love his enemy, and becomes the true New Man, who sacrifices everything for the salvation of his enemies.

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, Feb. 23	Psalm 42:1-6, 9-11	Job 18:1-21	John 7:32-53
Monday, Feb. 24	Psalm 30:1-5, 8-12	Job 19:1-12, 21-27	John 8:1-20
Tuesday, Feb. 25	Psalm 112	Job 20:1-23, 29	John 8:21-38
Wednesday, Feb. 26	Psalm 3	Job 21:1-21	John 8:39-59
Thursday, Feb. 27	Psalm 146:5-10	Job 30:16-31	John 9:1-23
Friday, Feb. 28	Psalm 66:8-12, 16-20	Job 31:1-12, 33-40	John 9:24-41
Saturday, Feb. 29	Psalm 23	Job 32:1-22	John 10:1-21

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – FEBRUARY 23, 2025

Theme: Christ alone is capable of fulfilling the command to love one's enemies.

Hymn: 544, "O Love, How Deep"

Summary of Readings:

Genesis 25:3-15: Joseph reveals himself to his brothers, and, forgiving them and blessing them, welcomes them into God's mercy.

1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42: St. Paul teaches about the truth of the Resurrection of the Dead, of the Resurrection of Christ, and of the final victory of Christ over all powers, including the power of death.

Luke 6:27-38: Christ continues His sermon on the plain as He instructs His disciples to love their enemies and to do for them whatever they would have them do, and more. This was to foreshadow the work of Christ's ministry, and the life of those who are in Christ through baptism.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Ephesians 4:1: "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called."

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: FIRST PETITION (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.)

Hallowed be Thy name.

How is God's name kept holy? God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 103:1-13 (ESV)

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

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! ²Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, ³who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, ⁴who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, ⁵who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. ⁶The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. ⁷He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. ⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. ¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. ¹³As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 103¹:

Father of light, we praise You because You forgive iniquity and do not reward us according to our sins. What You promised to the fathers You have fulfilled in Your Son. As the east and the west can never come together, so remove our sins far from us, that they can be accounted to us no more, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY:

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; 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: *Keith & Anita Martin* and their loved ones

Mike Allen, Keith Martin's friend, who is having back surgery

Cheryl Lloyd, who is recovering from hand surgery

Terry Swisher, Margaret Haynes' brother-in-law, who is recovering after a pulmonary embolism

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.