



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The First Sunday in Lent
March 9 through March 15, 2025*

Lent has begun. We now bow our heads in humility and recognize that we are nothing but dust and ash, that in us is no hope, that in us no victory can be won, either in the life or the next. So we look to Christ to do all things for us, to deliver us from Satan, and to save us from death by winning for us forgiveness and immortality by His obedience to the will of the Father. We see how our Lord begins His ministry by facing all the deceit of the devil in the wilderness, yet without sin. The devil's attack has ended, and Our Lord's attack begins; Our Lord begins His march to Jerusalem, to vanquish the foe of all mankind, and to gain all creation as His inheritance.

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, March 9	Psalm 79:5-9	Gen. 4:1-26	Mark 2:18-28
Monday, March 10	Psalm 2	Gen. 6:1—7:5	Mark 3:1-19
Tuesday, March 11	Psalm 104:1-9	Gen. 7:11—8:12	Mark 3:20-35
Wednesday, March 12	Psalm 74:10-17	Gen. 8:13—9:17	Mark 4:1-20
Thursday, March 13	Psalm 107:23-32	Gen. 11:27— 12:20	Mark 4:21-41
Friday, March 14	Psalm 73:25-28	Gen. 13:1-18	Mark 5:1-20
Saturday, March 15	Psalm 32:1-5	Gen. 15:1-21	Mark 5:21-43

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – MARCH 9, 2025

Theme: We must look to Christ to deliver us from Satan and win for us salvation, for we are nothing but dust.

Hymn: 424, “O Christ, You Walked the Road”

Summary of Readings:

Deuteronomy 26:1-11: The Lord institutes the Offering of the Firstfruits, whereby the first of all the product of Israel’s harvest would be sacrificed to God.

Romans 10:8-13: St. Paul explains that it is not by our own labor that we are saved, but by calling upon the mercy of God, who through Christ won for us salvation.

Luke 4:1-13: Jesus is filled with the Spirit and led into the wilderness to fast for forty days. There Satan tempts him and tries to defile Our Lord’s obedience to the will of the Father. However, Our Lord prevails, and the devil must retreat.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

1 Timothy 4:18: “The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into His heavenly kingdom. To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.”

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: SECOND 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.)

Thy kingdom come.

How does God's kingdom come? God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 91:1-13 (ESV)

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

¹He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. ²I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." ³For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. ⁴He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. ⁵You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, ⁶nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. ⁷A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. ⁸You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. ⁹Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place- the Most High, who is my refuge- ¹⁰no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. ¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. ¹²On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. ¹³You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 91¹:

Lord Jesus Christ, the Author and Finisher of faith, grant us the true and saving faith, and preserve us in the same against all temptations to doubt and unbelief. Blot out our iniquities by Your blood; cover our sins with Your righteousness, and let Your angels be a fenced wall around us against all our enemies, and evermore teach us to know the secret of Your Father's will. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT:

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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: *Christopher Martin* and his loved ones

David Cox, friend of Mark Ochs, who has been hospitalized with heart problems

Denee Smith, as her hand recovers from surgery

Our Christian Brothers and Sisters throughout the World, especially the families of the 70 Christians martyred in the Congo

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.