



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Feast of Palm Sunday
April 13 through April 19, 2025*

As we enter into the sanctuary, we enter also into Jerusalem, and into the story of the Passion of our Lord. He was greeted with praise, but was condemned as a shameful man to be humiliated, scourged, and crucified. Let us therefore this week meditate upon the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, who bore in Himself the shame of all mankind, that we might rejoice on Easter Sunday, at the resurrection of Christ, who gives to us shameful men His glory.

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, April 13	Psalms 71:19-24	Ex. 8:1-32	Heb. 1:1-14
Monday, April 14	Psalms 35:1-6, 9-10	Ex. 9:1-28	Heb. 2:1-18
Tuesday, April 15	Psalms 88:3-9	Ex. 9:29—10:20	Heb. 3:1-19
Wednesday, April 16	Psalms 89:20-27	Ex. 10:21— 11:10	Heb. 4:1-16
Thursday, April 17	Psalms 37:1-7	Ex. 12:1-28	Heb. 5:1-14
Friday, April 18	Psalms 135:1-4, 8-9	Ex. 12:29-32; 13:1-16	Heb. 6:1-20
Saturday, April 19	Psalms 37:1-7	Ex. 13:17—14:9	Heb. 7:1-22

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – APRIL 13, 2025

Theme: Let us meditate upon the passion of the Christ, that we might rightly see our guilt and our forgiveness.

Hymn: 438, “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”

Summary of Readings:

Deuteronomy 32:36-39: Our God topples all the gods of man’s own making, and attains for us the victory against all the temptations of this life.

Philippians 2:5-11: Christ embraced humiliation, that He might be exalted, and us in Him.

John 12:20-43: The Lord speaks of His coming Passion, and holds fast to His divine mission, but there are none who understand what He is about to endure.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Ephesians 4:32: “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD’S PRAYER: FIFTH PETITION

(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.)

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 31:9-16 (ESV)

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

⁹Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also. ¹⁰For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away. ¹¹Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my neighbors, and an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. ¹²I have been forgotten like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. ¹³For I hear the whispering of many—terror on every side!—as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. ¹⁴But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, “You are my God.” ¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors! ¹⁶Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!

LUTHER’S PRAYER ON PSALM 31:9-16¹:

Lord Jesus, we thank You for taking from us that heavy load of our sins which we could not bear, but which You bore in Your own body on the tree, ransoming us from eternal death. Grant us patience and resignation in suffering with You, that we may willingly take up our cross daily and follow You through suffering to glory. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF PALM SUNDAY:

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; 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: *Elaine Monaghan* and her loved ones

The Family of Web Allen, friend of the Atchleys, who has entered eternal rest

Nancy Jones, Curt Dickens' mother, who has cancer

Anita Martin, who was diagnosed with liver cancer

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.