



## A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
July 27 through August 2, 2025*

God created man to have dominion over the earth, yet believing that we were seeking a greater kingdom, we in fact willed our own slavery. We fell into idolatry, submitting ourselves to the very created things over which we were to rule. Yet God will not let this slavery continue, for even as He sent Moses to redeem His people from slavery in Egypt, so will He, through the incarnation of His Son, redeem us from our slavery to the idols, and in so doing, give to us His Word, that we may speak to the Father in His person.

### **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, July 27	Psalm 119:17-24	1 Sam. 12:1-25	Acts 22:30-23:11
Monday, July 28	Psalm 59:1-5	1 Samuel 13:1-18	Acts 23:12-35
Tuesday, July 29	Psalm 119:41-48	1 Samuel 14:47—15:9	Acts 24:1-23
Wednesday, July 30	Psalm 50:1-6	1 Samuel 15:10-35	Acts 24:24— 25:12
Thursday, July 31	Psalm 80:14-19	1 Samuel 16:1-23	Acts 25:13-27
Friday, August 1	Psalm 70	1 Samuel 17:1-19	Acts 26:1-23
Saturday, August 2	Psalm 71:1-8	1 Samuel 17:20-47	Acts 26:24—27:8

## A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JULY 27, 2025

**Theme:** God, through His Son, redeems man from our slavery to the idols to once again rule over creation.

**Hymn:** 351, “Creator of the Stars of Night”

### Summary of Readings:

**Genesis 18:20–33:** Because of their great wickedness, God will destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham intercedes on their behalf, but since there is not one innocent man in those cities, God overturns the land, giving to its inhabitants the slavery and death for which they desired.

**Colossians 2:6–15:** St. Paul urges the Church to be seduced neither by heresy nor by sophistry, but to cling to the victory of Christ which brings liberty from the enslaving powers of the world.

**Luke 11:1–13:** Our Lord teaches us His prayer, and teaches us of the goodness of our Heavenly Father, which exceeds that of any earthly father.

### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**Matthew 16:19:** “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.”

## **THE CATECHISM: OFFICE OF THE KEYS (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.)*

*Where is this written?* This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty:

The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven” (John 20:22-23).

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 138 (ESV)**

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

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; <sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word. <sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased. <sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth, <sup>5</sup>and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar. <sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me. <sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

## **LUTHER’S PRAYER ON PSALM 138<sup>1</sup>:**

Renewed thanks do we return unto You, O Father of mercy, for all Your loving-kindness toward us; and chiefly, because You have called us into the kingdom of Your Son, our Savior. Cleanse us from sin by His blood, and remember not our transgressions against us. Do not forsake the work of Your own hands that, delivered from our enemies, we may evermore praise you. Amen.

## **COLLECT FOR THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:**

You have built Your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone. Continue to send Your messengers to preserve Your people in true peace that, by the preaching of Your Word, Your Church may be kept free from all harm and danger; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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<sup>1</sup> 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: *John & Jo Rudsenske* and their loved ones

*Nancy Daniels*, Linda Kirtley's sister, who is recovering from back surgery

*Casey Stone*, the Pedersens' niece, who received a kidney transplant

*Natalie Rudsenske*, who suffered a broken arm this week

## **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.