



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 17 through August 23, 2025*

The Lord does not promise us worldly happiness. But this is okay, for happiness cannot be drawn out of the world. The world is broken. It is the world that sinful Adam and the deceitful Devil made from what God made good. Our joy comes only from God. This is why God will bring judgment, a sword, upon the world, not merely to destroy, as if He enjoyed destroying His creation, but that He might end all things that bring misery to man, that we might find final happiness in His vision.

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, August 17	Psalm 24:1-6	2 Sam. 7:1-17	1 Cor. 9:24-10:22
Monday, August 18	Psalm 107:1-9	2 Sam. 7:18-29	1 Cor. 10:23-11:16
Tuesday, August 19	Psalm 12	2 Sam. 11:1-27	1 Cor. 11:17-34
Wednesday, August 20	Psalm 51:1-8	2 Sam. 12:1-25	1 Cor. 12:1-13
Thursday, August 21	Psalm 139:13-16, 23-24	1 Kings 1:1-4, 15-35	1 Cor. 12:14-31
Friday, August 22	Psalm 97:6-12	1 Kings 2:1-27	1 Cor. 13:1-13
Saturday, August 23	Psalm 111:1-3, 9-10	1 Kings 3:1-15	2 Cor. 1:1-22

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – AUGUST 17, 2025

Theme: The Lord comes with a sword, not out of vengeance, but to establish what is good.

Hymn: 512, “At the Name of Jesus”

Summary of Readings:

Jeremiah 23:16-29: The Lord condemns those false prophets who reject the truth of God’s Word and who promise peace to those who cling to their sin and stubbornly follow their own hearts.

Hebrews 11:17-12:3: Strengthened by the example of those faithful witnesses who have gone before us, we turn from our sin, trusting in Christ’s death and resurrection for our forgiveness, and hold fast to the truth of God’s Word even in the face of hostility and persecution.

Luke 12:49-53: Jesus did not suffer God’s wrath by His “Baptism of fire” so that we could ignore His call to repentance and make peace for ourselves in this world. Rather, His Word will always create division between believers and those who reject His Word.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Matthew 26:26, 28: “This is My body... This is My blood.”

THE CATECHISM: THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR 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? The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 119:81-88 (ESV)

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

⁸¹My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word.

⁸²My eyes long for your promise; I ask, "When will you comfort me?"

⁸³For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten your statutes.

⁸⁴How long must your servant endure? When will you judge those who persecute me?

⁸⁵The insolent have dug pitfalls for me; they do not live according to your law.

⁸⁶All your commandments are sure; they persecute me with falsehood; help me!

⁸⁷They have almost made an end of me on earth, but I have not forsaken your precepts.

⁸⁸In your steadfast love give me life, that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 119:81-88¹:

Spirit of the living God, teach us to know and to consider the vanity of all earthly things, that we may be made truly wise to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven, that our souls may not be left empty. Cause Your Word to grow in us, and to bring fruit which will remain unto eternal life. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same 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: *Matt Stewart* and his loved ones

June Clement, Nancy Teal's in-law, who is ill

Barbara Glenn, who is undergoing medical tests

Students, Teachers, and Parents, as they begin the new school year

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.