



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
November 16 through November 22, 2025*

The Disciples are speaking about the beauty and splendor of the temple in Jerusalem, whereupon Jesus tells them about the coming destruction of the Temple. Yet He does not speak about just one temple, but three. First, He speaks of the physical building in Jerusalem, that it will be destroyed by the Romans. Second, He speaks of the Temple of His body, which though it will be destroyed by the scribes and Pharisees and Gentiles, yet it will be raised again through the Resurrection by the Father. Third, He speaks of the Temple of the Church, all those who have received the Holy Spirit by Baptism and have become with Christ a dwelling place for God. This Temple, the Temple of the Church, will also be destroyed, and always seems like it is being destroyed, but even as Christ was raised from the dead, so the Church is ever being raised back up and rebuilt upon the cornerstone of Christ Himself through the preaching of the Gospel.

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, Nov. 16	Psalm 54	Jer. 31:1-34	Matt. 27:1-10
Monday, Nov. 17	Psalm 148:1-6	Jer. 33:1-22	Matt. 27:11-32
Tuesday, Nov. 18	Psalm 22:1-5	Jer. 37:1-21	Matt. 27:33-56
Wednesday, Nov. 19	Psalm 20	Jer. 38:1-28	Matt. 27:57-66
Thursday, Nov. 20	Psalm 118:19-29	Dan. 1:1-21	Matt. 28:1-20
Friday, Nov. 21	Psalm 114	Dan. 2:1-23	Rev. 18:1-24
Saturday, Nov. 22	Psalm 111	Dan. 2:24-49	Rev. 19:1-21

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – NOVEMBER 16, 2025

Theme: No matter the difficulties we face in our faith, even if it be weak, God who has made us His temple will build it up.

Hymn: 530, “No Temple Now, No Gift of Price”

Summary of Readings:

Malachi 4:1-6: The Day of the Lord is coming when all who keep His Word and fear His Name will receive healing for life everlasting.

2 Thessalonians 3:1-13: St. Paul encourages us to live in the hope of God’s promised redemption and to do the work of our vocations throughout these last days.

Luke 21:5-28: “There will be great distress upon the earth,” but the faithful know that “the kingdom of God is near.” For like the fig tree in bloom points to warmer days ahead, these signs point to the sure and certain promise that Christ is coming soon. Therefore, “straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Psalm 37:4: “Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.”

THE CATECHISM: THE 10TH COMMANDMENT

(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.)

What is the Tenth Commandment? You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 98 (ESV)

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

¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. ²The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. ³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. ⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! ⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! ⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD! ⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! ⁸Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together ⁹before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

PRAYER ON PSALM 98¹:

Honor, praise, and thanksgiving to You, O Christ, our God and Savior, for all Your wonderful works and the numberless blessings with which You enrich us. Fill us with Your Spirit and create in us new hearts, that we may rejoice over Your works and gifts all our days, and at our latter end receive us into that kingdom of light in which we shall follow You wherever You go. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, 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: *Charles Cowards* and his loved ones

Angelia Hall, friend of Nathan Brownstein, who is experiencing heart problems

Betty Reed, friend of Charles Cowards, who is recovering from surgery

Crystal Weidner, the Weidners' granddaughter, who is recovering from surgery

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.