



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord
January 11 through January 17, 2026*

Our Lord goes to the River Jordan to be baptized by St. John. John refuses to baptize Him, because John's baptism is one of repentance, and Jesus has no sin to repent of. But Jesus insists on being baptized, for He is not coming to wash away His own sin, but to be united to the sins of all mankind, that He might take them to the cross, and crucify them for us in His own body.

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, Jan. 11	Psalm 7:1-5, 8-11	Ezek. 33:1-20	Rom. 3:1-18
Monday, Jan. 12	Psalm 63:3-11	Ezek. 34:1-24	Rom. 3:19-31
Tuesday, Jan. 13	Psalm 32:1-7	Ezek. 36:13-28	Rom. 4:1-25
Wednesday, Jan. 14	Psalm 104:27-30	Ezek. 36:33— 37:14	Rom 5:1-21
Thursday, Jan. 15	Psalm 29:1-4a, 8-11	Ezek. 37:15-28	Rom. 6:1-23
Friday, Jan. 16	Psalm 36:1-6, 10	Ezek. 38:1-23	Rom. 7:1-20
Saturday, Jan. 17	Psalm 76:1-3, 6-6, 11- 12	Ezek. 39:1-10, 17-29	Rom. 7:21—8:17

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JANUARY 11, 2026

Theme: Christ is baptized by John to become sin for us.

Hymn: 404, “Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered”

Summary of Readings:

Isaiah 42:1-9: God’s Servant, our Savior who rescues us from the prison of sin and death, is the One upon whom God’s Spirit rests, the One in whom God’s soul delights, the One of whom God said at the Jordan, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Romans 6:1-11: Jesus took our place in death in order that we might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him through Baptism into a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.

Matthew 3:13-17: Much to John’s surprise, Jesus requests a Baptism of repentance which identifies Him with our sin and points Him to the cross where He will pay the price for our sin once for all, fulfilling all righteousness.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

Matthew 28:19-20: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

THE CATECHISM: THE APOSTLE'S CREED: THIRD ARTICLE (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.)

What does this mean? I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 29 (ESV)

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

¹Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. ²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness. ³The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters. ⁴The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. ⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. ⁶He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. ⁷The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. ⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. ⁹The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!" ¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. ¹¹May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 29¹:

Thanks and praise be unto You, our God and Lord, for sending us the Gospel of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in which You teach us the way of salvation and comfort us with the hope of everlasting life. Make Your Word in us a power of salvation, and the anchor of our souls in life and death. Cause also the voice of Your Word to be sounded abroad, that the nations that do not know You may come to Your light. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD:

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; 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: *Roger & MariLynn Fuhrer* and their loved ones

Roger Lindsey, former member of Christ Lutheran, who is undergoing brain surgery

Elizabeth Jean Martin, Christopher and Brandy's new baby, who was born last week

Barb Zeigler, cousin of Mark Ochs, who is recovering from an appendectomy

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.