



A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays

*The Feast of the Confession of St. Peter
January 18 through January 24, 2026*

Jesus asks St. Peter, 'who do the people say that I am?' And Peter explains to Him all the theories going about at that moment, that He is a prophet, or a man of God, or a reincarnation of John the Baptist or Elijah. The people are trying to put Jesus into a category, but the fact is Jesus is like no other. Whatever He is, He is unique. St. Peter recognizes this, and therefore called Jesus the Christ. Yet as soon as Peter calls the Lord the Christ, Jesus condemns him as Satan; for though Peter recognizes that Jesus is unique, he does not want the Lord to undergo the unique work that only He can do.

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. 18	Psalm 44:1-3, 9-10, 20-23, 26	Ezek. 40:1-4; 43:1-12	Rom. 8:18-39
Monday, Jan. 19	Psalm 15	Ezek. 44:1-16, 23-29	Rom. 9:1-18
Tuesday, Jan. 20	Psalm 117	Ezek. 47:1-14, 21-23	Rom. 9:19-33
Wednesday, Jan. 21	Psalm 20	Joel 1:1-20	Rom 10:1-21
Thursday, Jan. 22	Psalm 69:19-23, 32-33	Joel 2:1-17	Rom. 11:1-24
Friday, Jan. 23	Psalm 139:1-6, 12-14	Joel 2:18-32	Rom. 11:25—12:13
Saturday, Jan. 24	Psalm 131	Joel 3:1-21	Rom. 12:14— 13:14

A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – JANUARY 18, 2026

Theme: There is none like unto Jesus, and He alone can atone for our sins.

Hymn: 512, “At the Name of Jesus”

Summary of Readings:

Acts 4:8–13: St. Peter begins preaching Christ crucified to the Sanhedrin.

2 Peter 1:1–15: St. Peter speaks of how we are sanctified by God’s divine power, through our participation in the very nature of God.

Mark 8:27–35: St. Peter confesses Jesus to be the Christ, yet only a little later, he is condemned by Christ as being ‘Satan’ for attempting to save the Lord from the cross.

MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

1 John 3:1: “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.”

THE CATECHISM: THE LORD'S PRAYER: INTRODUCTION

(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.)

Our Father who art in heaven.

What does this mean? With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 118:19-29 (ESV)

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

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. ²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. ²³This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success! ²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar! ²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. ²⁹Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

LUTHER'S PRAYER ON PSALM 118¹:

Lord Jesus, who bled and died for our sins, and rose again triumphing over Your and our enemies, grant us to be partakers of Your victory, that we, delivered from the hand of them that hate us, may serve You without fear in time and eternity. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF THE CONFESSION OF ST. PETER:

Heavenly Father, You revealed to the apostle Peter the blessed truth that Your Son Jesus is the Christ. Strengthen us by the proclamation of this truth that we too may joyfully confess that there is salvation in no one else; 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: *The Gallarno Family* and their loved ones

Beth Israel, the local Jewish synagogue, that recently suffered an arson attack

Alex Kates, the Atchleys' grandson, who is suffering from a severe skin condition

Steve Spinks, Will Pickering's high school coach, who was hospitalized for a stroke

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.