



# Living from the Liturgy

*A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays*

Second Sunday of Easter  
April 12 – April 18, 2026

Modern people like to think of themselves as enlightened and skeptical, only believing things proven by science or offered with proof. But this is just a conceit. Rather we believe whatever it is that we want to believe because to believe it gives us comfort or relief. When we doubt however, we doubt because it is either too good to be true, or too painful for us to accept. St. Thomas too doubts that the Lord is risen. He doubts because the message he has received from the other disciples is too painful, that they are seeing visions of Jesus. But he does not care about visions of the Lord. He must see the Lord risen, just as He promised, in His very flesh.

#### **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

Sun., April 12	Psalm 119:9-16	Ex. 20:1-24	Luke 4:1-15
Mon., April 13	Psalm 146	Ex. 22:20—23:13	Luke 4:16-30
Tues., April 14	Psalm 26:1-3, 8-12	Ex. 23:14-33	Luke 4:31-44
Wed., April 15	Psalm 99:1-5	Ex. 24:1-18	Luke 5:1-16
Thurs., April 16	Psalm 119:25-32	Ex. 25:1-22	Luke 5:17-39
Fri., April 17	Psalm 92:1-9	Ex. 31:1-18	Luke 6:1-19
Sat., April 18	Psalm 106:16-23	Ex. 32:1-14	Luke 6:20-38

### A LOOK BACK TO THE LITURGY – APRIL 12, 2026

**Theme:** St. Thomas believes in the resurrection of the flesh, and will not be satisfied until He sees Christ risen in His body, just as He had promised.

**Hymn:** 472, “These Things Did Thomas Count as Real”

#### Summary of Readings:

**Acts 5:29-42:** On trial for preaching Christ crucified and risen for the forgiveness of sins, St. Peter declares, “We must obey God rather than men,” and continues teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ, despite the persecution that is certain to follow.

**1 Peter 1:3-9:** We have been born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead – a hope that fills us with great joy, even in the midst of our trials as we await the goal of our faith, the salvation of our souls.

**John 20:19-31:** Our risen Lord Jesus Christ comes to His disciples on the first day of the week, revealing Himself in flesh and blood, speaking His Word that gives peace through the forgiveness of sins, and strengthening the faith of all who receive Him (Thomas included), that they may continue His work of salvation for the life of the world.

#### MEMORY VERSE TO LEARN BY HEART:

**Psalm 50:15:** “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

## **THE CATECHISM — THE LORD’S PRAYER: CONCLUSION**

*(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.)*

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

*What does this mean?* This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

### **PSALM OF THE WEEK: PSALM 148 (ESV)**

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

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! <sup>2</sup>Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts! <sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars! <sup>4</sup>Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created. <sup>6</sup>And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away. <sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, <sup>8</sup>fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word! <sup>9</sup>Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! <sup>10</sup>Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds! <sup>11</sup>Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! <sup>12</sup>Young men and maidens together, old men and children! <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven. <sup>14</sup>He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

### **LUTHER’S PREFACE TO PSALM 148<sup>1</sup>:**

The 148<sup>th</sup> Psalm is a Psalm of thanks that excites and exhorts all creatures in heaven and earth to praise God – especially His saints who worship Him, that is, have His Word and worship. Rightfully, all of creation should be nothing but a tongue, always praising this great goodness of God. If you want to know how good a thing is, then take whatever you will and say: “If there were no fire...” or “If there were no sun...”; “If there were no woman...”; and so on. Then you will see why one should thank God.”

### **COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER:**

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord’s resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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: *Ketih & Anita Martin* and their loved ones

*Danyel Castillo*, Jenny Merry's friend, whose mother has entered eternal rest

*Emily Held*, as she travels to Italy

*Clark & Catherine Smith*, the Smiths' son and daughter-in-law, as Catherine is due to deliver their baby

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING 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.