**Lutheran Church of the Cross**

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**Living from the Liturgy**

*A Guide for your Christian Life between Sundays*

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21 - 28

*The Gospel of Christ is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Gentile. (Rom 1:8–17) Even in the Old Testament, the Gentiles were beneficiaries of God’s saving power. Though unimpressed at first with the Word of God, a Syrian commander is persuaded to receive that Word, and in the water he is cleansed and brought to faith in the God of Israel. (2 Ki 5:1–15a) Evil is overcome by good. (Rom 12:16–21) So also in the New Testament a Roman centurion demonstrates great and humble faith in the Lord. (Mt 8:1–13) All He needs is the Word of Christ. For He trusts that Jesus’ Word of healing has authority to accomplish what it says. And indeed it does. The centurion’s faith is praised by our Lord above that of any Israelite. For the last shall be first, and the first last. Apart from faith in Christ, there is no salvation, even for a Jew, but only weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

**An Order for Daily Meditation and Prayer**

Read the Scriptures appointed for the day, review the readings from Sunday, and learn by heart the portion of the Small Catechism. Conclude with the Psalms, the Collect, and the prayers, using the guidelines as you see appropriate for yourself or your family.

**Daily Readings for the Week:**

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| Sunday, Jan. 22 | Review Readings for the Third Sunday after Epiphany | |
| Monday, Jan. 23 | Luke 7:36-50 | Numbers 12-13 |
| Tuesday, Jan. 24 | Luke 8 | Numbers 14-15 |
| Wednesday, Jan. 25 | Luke 9:1-17 | Numbers 16-17 |
| Thursday, Jan. 26 | Luke 9:18-62 | Numbers 18-20 |
| Friday, Jan. 27 | Luke 10:1-24 | Numbers 21-22 |
| Saturday, Jan. 28 | Proverbs 7:14-27 | Psalm 49-51 |

**The Catechism: The Lord’s Prayer: The 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? (Learn by heart)*

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: 110:1-4**

**Introduction:** The 110th psalm is a prophecy of Christ, that He shall be the eternal king and priest, indeed true God, sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and that He would be glorified and recognized. In the entire Scripture there is nothing like this psalm. It would be right to acknowledge it as the chief confirmation of the Christian faith. For nowhere else is Christ prophesied with such clear, plain words as a priest and an eternal priest. It is prophesied as well that the priesthood of Aaron would be abolished. This psalm is yet again and more splendidly extolled in the Epistle to the Hebrews. It is indeed a shame that such a psalm is not more richly extolled by Christians.

**Luther’s Prayer:** Praise and honor belong to You, everlasting Word, because You were made flesh and sacrificed Yourself upon the cross as the offering for sin. Govern us according to Your wisdom; defend us against our enemies; speak for us with Your Father, and let us live under You in Your kingdom in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Amen.

**Collect for the Third Sunday after Epiphany**

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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 the 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 wellbeing 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 sin.

**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, 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 LCC**

**Our Prayer Family:** The Woodhead Family

**A Sister Congregation:** St. Athanasius Lutheran Church –Vienna, VA

Rev. James Douthwaite

**Our Children, Educators and Schools:** Melonee Noll

Beall Elementary School

**Special Prayers:** Craig Olson, Stacy Owens, Bob Droege, Helen Nine, Vonnie Stewart, Laura Parker, and the persecuted Church throughout the world.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Luther’s Morning or Evening Prayer**

**Morning:**

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.

**Evening:**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. 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.

**Announcements January 22 – 29, 2017**

**5th Sunday Offering for SED Outreach Ministries:** On January 29th, the fifth Sunday of the month, we continue our usual tradition of sponsoring one of our SED Outreach Ministries (This month: **Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf**) in which you can designate your offering to support this ongoing effort in the District.

**LESSONS FOR LAMBS** – Whether you have young children, youth, no children, or anything else, take some time to check out the Lessons for Lambs that are available next to the bulletins and sermon notes at the entrance to the sanctuary. If the ‘Living from the Liturgy’ insert happens to not be accessible for your family, please consider this resource as a helpful tool in building family devotions!

**Auxiliary at The Village at Rockville**—Celebrating their 75th Anniversary year on January 26th. See flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex for more information and menu.

**National March for Life**: On Friday, January 27, 2017. Join fellow Lutherans for the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. You are invited to join your LCMS brothers and sisters for a Divine Service beginning at 9 a.m. at The Westin Arlington Gateway Hotel, and after the service we will travel by Metro to the march.

If you cannot attend the worship service, please join the LCMS near 12th Street and Constitution Avenue for the March for Life. Look for the green umbrella.

**Sunday Morning Christian Education:** Join us at 9am as we grow together in the faith of Christ.

**Children –Youth:** Gather on the Lower Level.

**Theme:** Generations of Faith

**Catechism Theme:** 10 Commandments

**Adults:** Gather in the Upper Room.

**Theme:** “Heaven on Earth: The Gifts of Christ in the Divine Service”

**Purpose:** To grow in and foster a common language for LCC regarding the Christian Faith as given in the Divine Liturgy and expressed in such areas as ‘Mission’, ‘Witness’, ‘Outreach’, ‘Daily Living’, and Christian Identity.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Class:** Join us at 10am at the Chapel at the Villages at Rockville (NLH) for a study on the Psalms and their use within the Church’s liturgical life. Our class meets year-round, and all ages are welcome to attend.

**The Lord’s Table Soup Kitchen** needs paper towel and napkins. Please place your donations in the basket in the narthex. Thanks to all who donated drink mixes.