The Family Altar

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer in the Christian Home



For your life in Christ the Week of the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

August 24–30, 2026

How to use this resource: Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able or as your family size and ages dictate. You will need your Bible, a Catechism, and an LSB Hymnal. Other resources named within may enrich your meditation.

Begin

Invocation

The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Hymn of the Week

LSB #422 "On My Heart Imprint Your Image" (v. 1)

Recite

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Verse of the Week: 2 Corinthians 3:5

"Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God," (ESV)

Meditate

Psalm: *60-Day Psalm Schedule*

	Mon.	*Tues.*	*Wed.*	*Thurs.*	*Fri.*	*Sat.*	*Sun.*
Morning	40	42, 43	45	48, 49	51	54, 56	59
Evening	39, 41	44	46, 47	50	52, 53	55	57, 58

Daily Bible Stories

Day	**Week 52: New Testament Stories**
Monday	The Plot to Kill Jesus – John 11:45–57
Tuesday	The Son of Man Must Be Lifted Up – John 12:27–41
Wednesday	Walk in the Light – John 12:42–50
Thursday	Jesus Is the Way to the Father – John 14:1–14
Friday	The Father Will Give the Spirit of Truth – John 14:15–24
Saturday	Look Ahead to Sunday's Readings (see last page)
Sunday	Attend Divine Service

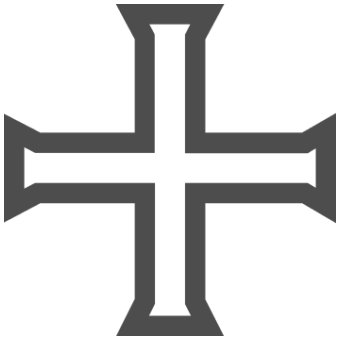
Daily Lectionary Readings

August 24	1 Kng 5:1–18, 2 Cor 1:23—2:17 *1 Kng 6:1—7:50*
August 25	1 Kng 7:51—8:21, 2 Cor 3:1–18
August 26	1 Kng 8:22–30, 46–63, 2 Cor 4:1–18 *(Ps 30)*
August 27	1 Kng 9:1–9; 10:1–13, 2 Cor 5:1–21 *(Ps 72)*
August 28	1 Kng 11:1–26, 2 Cor 6:1–18
August 29	1 Kng 11:42—12:19, 2 Cor 7:1–16
August 30	1 Kng 12:20-13:5, 33-34, 2 Cor 8:1-24 *1 Kng 14:1—16:28*

Study

The Catechism

Participants may choose to study the catechism at their own pace or follow along with the selected portion of the catechism for the week.



Review The Lord's Prayer

See pp. 10–13 of the Learn by Heart Catechism

Pray

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

Collect for the Week:

Almighty and merciful God, by Your gift alone Your faithful people render true and laudable service. Help us steadfastly to live in this life according to Your promises and finally attain Your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

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. **Sunday:** Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.

Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Close

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son,
and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
Amen.

Observing the Church Year

***Liturgical Color(s) of the Week**: Green; Red*

Green – The color of growth. During this season we grow and mature in our understanding of Jesus and His teachings.
Red – The color of fire and blood. Red symbolizes the gift of the Holy Spirit and the blood of the martyrs.

Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations This Week

NOTE: The following resources contain great summaries of the observances of the church year
1. TDP– "Treasury of Daily Prayer"
2. CS– "Celebrating the Saints"

August 24 – St. Bartholomew the Apostle (R) (TDP p. 654; CS p. 150)
August 27 – Monica, Mother of Augustine (G) (TDP p. 663; CS p. 152)
August 28 – Augustine of Hippo, Pastor and Theologian (G) (TDP p. 667; CS p. 154)
August 29 – The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist (R) (TDP p. 670; CS p. 157)

Looking Forward to Sunday

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
Readings: 2 Chronicles 28:8–15; Galatians 3:15–22; Luke 10:23–37

Jesus Is Our Good Samaritan

The Law cannot help us or give us life. Rather, it confines everyone under sin as wounded and naked before God (Gal. 3:15–22). So it is that two figures of the Law, the priest and the Levite, passed by the injured man on the side of the road (Luke 10:23–37). Only the promised Seed of Abraham can rescue us and make us righteous before God. Only the Samaritan, our Lord Jesus, had compassion. He came down to us in our lost and dying condition, pouring on the oil and wine of the Sacraments. He placed us on His own animal, bearing our sin and brokenness in His body on the cross to restore us. Jesus brought us to the inn, that is, the Church, and gave the innkeeper two denarii, that His double forgiveness might continue to be ministered to us. In this way the Lord, by whose Law we are torn and stricken, heals us and revives us by His Gospel and raises us up with Himself on the third day, that we may live in His sight (Hos. 6:1–6).