

Daily Prayer

Use this booklet at home to aid in your personal or family devotions.

Collect of the Day

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.

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.

Luther's Evening Prayer

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Scripture Readings

In preparation for next Sunday's worship, the following passages from scripture and the Book of Concord may be read.

First Sunday after Epiphany

Monday:

Old Testament: Isaiah 42:1-9

Tuesday:

Psalm 29

Wednesday:

New Testament: Romans 6:1-11

Thursday:

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Friday:

Book of Concord Reading:

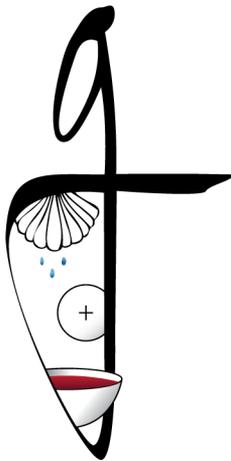
"Therefore, every Christian has enough in Baptism to learn and to do all his life. For he has always enough to do by believing firmly what Baptism promises and brings: victory over death and the devil (Romans 6:3-6), forgiveness of sin (Acts 2:38), God's grace (Titus 3:5-6), the entire Christ, and the Holy Spirit with His gifts (1 Corinthians 6:11). In short, Baptism is so far beyond us that if timid nature could realize this, it might well doubt whether it could be true. Think about it. Imagine there was a doctor somewhere who understood the art of saving people from death or, even though they died, could restore them quickly to life so that they would afterward live forever. Oh, how the world would pour in money like snow and rain. No one could find access to him because of the throng of the rich! But here in Baptism there is freely brought to everyone's door such a treasure and medicine that it utterly destroys death and preserves all people alive.

"We must think this way about Baptism and make it profitable for ourselves. So when our sins and conscience oppress us, we strengthen ourselves and take comfort and say, 'Nevertheless, I am baptized. And if I am baptized, it is promised to me that I shall be saved and have eternal life, both in soul and body.' For that is the reason why these two things are done in Baptism: the body—which can grasp nothing but the water—is sprinkled and, in addition, the Word is spoken for the soul to grasp. Now, since both, the water and the Word, make one Baptism, therefore, body and soul must be saved and live forever (1 Corinthians 15:53). The soul lives through the Word, which it believes, but the body lives because it is united with the soul and also holds on through Baptism as it is able to grasp it. We have, therefore, no greater jewel in body and soul. For by Baptism we are made holy and are

saved (1 Corinthians 6:11). No other kind of life, no work upon earth, can do this."

Large Catechism, Part IV, 41-46: Baptism.

All passages from the Book of Concord are quoted from *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, CPH, 2006.



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