

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

February 17th – 22nd, 2025

Mon Matthew 16:13-20 Jesus will soon be turning His face toward Jerusalem and suffering as the Christ. The Father has revealed His identity to His disciples, and with the keys of the kingdom He will build His church.

Tues 2 Corinthians 8:1-9 God is so great that He is able to serve His believers through people in deep poverty. Their joy in Him results in acts of love toward others as they follow their Savior's example (v9).

Wed Genesis 41:28-43 God uses Joseph to explain Pharaoh's dream and also raises Joseph from prison to palace in Egypt. Pharaoh recognizes that it is God who has made Joseph discerning and wise – fit to rule.

Thurs Malachi 2:4-9 The Lord rebukes the priests who have turned away from the way of Levi. The covenant with Levi was life and peace and walking with God. He was a messenger of the Lord of hosts.

Fri John 8:25-36 The Pharisees demand that Jesus verify who He is, and Jesus knows where this is leading: to His being lifted up on the cross. In this way He will set mankind free from sin and condemnation.

Sat Acts 16:24-35 Neither the inner prison nor their feet in stocks could stop Paul and Silas from praying and singing hymns to God. Their Lord had also faced capture and death to free their jailor for eternity.

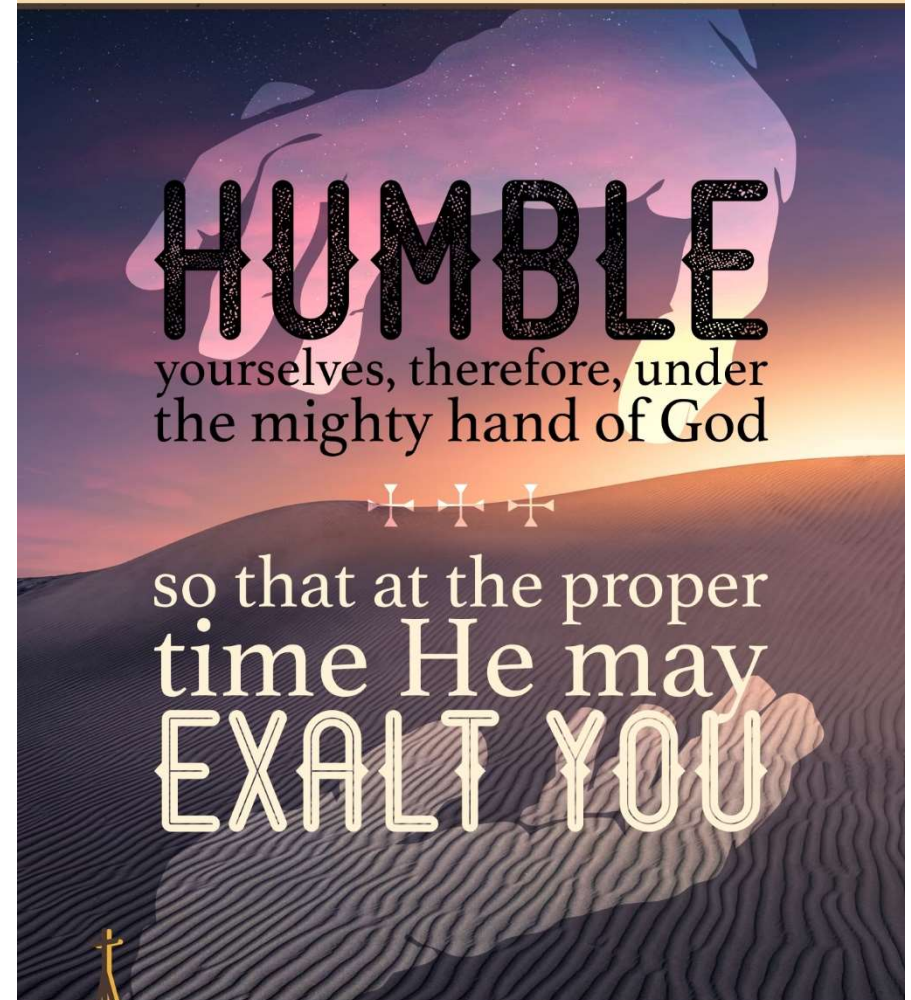


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Septuagesima

February 16th, 2025

Liturgy: TLH p. 5



ST. JOHN'S

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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #416 "Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G ♪ Amen.

P Pastor

G Congregation

Confession of Our Sins

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

G ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

G ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

G **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord unto us all.

G ♪ Amen.

Thanks be to God! Nathan and Mary Albrecht welcomed a healthy baby girl on Wednesday morning—Isabelle "Izzy" Quinn (8lbs 2 oz, 21 in). She was baptized on Wednesday evening by her Grandpa Albrecht. Please join the Albrechts in giving thanks to God for Izzy's healthy birth and re-birth!

Ladies' Aid has been rescheduled again due to expected weather. Our next meeting will be February 25 at 6:30 pm.

St. John's basketball team is playing early this afternoon in Mankato. Pray for a safe trip for all who are involved!

CLC Call News – Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, WI, has **received** the call to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Loveland, CO. <> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has **received** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Teacher Mikkela Schmitt of St. Stephen Lutheran School, Mountain View, CA, has **accepted** the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD. <> Teacher Cathy Augustin of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN, has announced her **retirement** at the end of the current school year. <> Pastor Cory Drehle of Berea Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD, has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Pastor Paul Nolting of Grace Lutheran Church, Valentine, NE, Peace Lutheran Church, Mission, SD, and St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, White River, SD, has announced his **retirement** effective Summer 2025. <> Pastor George Dummann of Salem Lutheran Church, Eagle Lake, MN, has **received** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, New Ulm, MN to serve as their pastor along with his current call.

Ushers	2/16	Kendall B, Larry B.
	2/23	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	3/2	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
Cleaning	This Week – The Albrechts (wk. 2)	
	Up Next – The Eigenbergs	

to drink. ² Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

"Is the LORD Among Us or Not?"

The Offertory

- C** ♪ *Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #408

"Jesus Christ, My Pride and Glory"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C** ♪ *Amen, amen, a – men.*

Hymn: WS #742

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

The Introit

Ps. 18:1-2, 5-6, 27, 32, 49

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** The cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.
- C** *In my distress I called upon the Lord. From his temple he heard my voice.*
- P** I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer.
- C** *For you save a humble people, but the haughty eyes you bring down.*
- P** [You have] equipped me with strength and made my way blameless.
- C** *For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to your name.*
- P** The cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.
- C** *In my distress I called upon the Lord. From his temple he heard my voice.*

The Gloria Patri

TLH 16:4

Latin for "Glory be to the Father."

- C** ♪ *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Praise to Thee and adoration!
Grant that we Thy Word may trust
And obtain true consolation
While we here below must wander,
Till we sing Thy praises yonder.*

The Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** ♪ *And with thy spirit.*

The Collect Prayer of the Day

- P** O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** ♪ *Amen.*



1 Cor. 9:24-10:5

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize?

So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified. ¹ For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

P The Holy Gospel is written in the twentieth chapter of St. Matthew, beginning at the first verse:

C *Glory be to Thee, O Lord!*



Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning

to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' ⁵ So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶ And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' ⁸ And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' ⁹ And when

those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first last."

P Here ends the Gospel.

C *Glory be to Thee, O Christ!*

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Hymn: TLH #358

"Lamb of God, We Fall Before Thee"



Exodus 17:1-7

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by

stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people