

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

July 14th - 19th, 2025

Mon Matthew 5:28-30 Righteousness that exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees comes from the heart (v28). It is the heart which controls the eye, hand, etc., and it is the Lord who speaks to the heart.

Tues Acts 4:1-22 After the healing of the lame man, Peter and John are speaking to the people about Jesus. When the Sadducees approach, it becomes a question of "listen to you" or "listen to God" (v19).

Wed Joshua 24:14-28 As Joshua approaches the end of his work, he urges the people to continue serving the true God and no other. They respond positively and the covenant with God is reaffirmed at Shechem.

Thurs Psalm 103:1-5 David urges us to "bless the Lord," praising Him for such personal gifts as forgiveness, healing, redemption, mercy, compassion, goodness, and renewed energy throughout our life.

Fri Psalm 103:6-18 Even from the days of Moses, the Lord's forgiving mercy has been shown to His people. Our lives on this earth are short (v15-16), but the Lord's mercy lives from eternity to eternity.

Sat Psalm 103:19-22 The Lord's heavenly throne and royal power call for praise from His messengers, from His host of servants, from everything that He has made, yes, also from my own spirit and life!

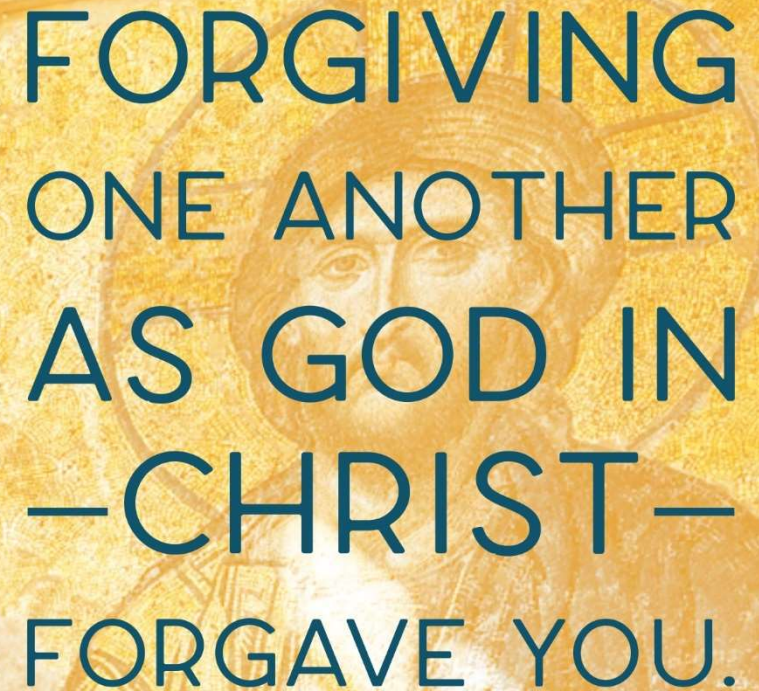
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4th Sunday after Trinity

July 13th, 2025

Liturgy: WS p. 22

Organist: Lana Strike



FORGIVING
ONE ANOTHER
AS GOD IN
—CHRIST—
FORGAVE YOU.



ST. JOHN'S

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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #20

"God of Mercy, God of Grace"

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

C Amen.

Confession of Our Sins

P Pastor

C Congregation

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

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us pray.

C Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. 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 Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

The Gloria Patri

TLH 377:10

C ♪ All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise To Father, Son, and Spirit, The God that saved us by His grace—All glory to His merit! O Triune God in heaven above, Who hast revealed Thy saving love, Thy blessed name be hallowed.

VBS is scheduled for July 21st – 25th. We will be in need of many volunteers. Please consider volunteering your time to this important work of the church. There are many roles to fill, including teaching, crafts, copying/printing, games, music. A list has been placed in the entryway for snack ideas; if you are able to **donate snacks** for VBS, please take a look at the list or speak with Faith Kazemba.

Women's Retreat West Registration Open – Registration is now open for this year's Women's Retreat West, to be held in Sioux Falls from September 19-21. The theme this year is "Pieces of Jesus' Peace". To register, please head over to womensretreat.clclutheran.net, click on WEST, and fill out the form. If you would rather register over email or have any questions, reach out to womensretreatwest@gmail.com.

CLC Call News – Pastor David Ude of Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI, has **received** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Mountain View, CA. <> Erin Franson has **accepted** the call to serve as the female Mentor at Immanuel Lutheran High School and College. <> Teacher Kathleen Naumann of Immanuel Lutheran School, Winter Haven, FL, has **received** the call to Luther Memorial School, Fond du Lac, WI. <> St. John's Lutheran Church, Okabena, MN, has **extended** two part-time, one-year calls to two St. John's members: Lori Ruthenbeck and Mary Albrecht. <> Pastor Tom Naumann of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI, has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Paul Tiefel, Jr. of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has announced his retirement as of August 2025.

Ushers	7/13	Kendall B, Larry B.
	7/20	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	7/27	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
Cleaning	This Week – Dronen, Aden, Ferguson, Baumann (wk. 3)	
	Up Next – The Boernsens	

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!

Hymn: TLH #412

"May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill"

✠ ✠ ✠

July Quarterly Meeting – The voting members of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our July Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, July 20, in the auditorium after church. Besides regular Board reports, the agenda will include: St. John's Budget for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026), Reformation Service schedule, possibly hosting a Joint Mission Festival - schedule/speaker, School Board to call prospective Sunday School teachers, October Quarterly Meeting date. Additional agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

Thank you from Lylas – "Thank you to all who helped make my 90th birthday special. Good bless you all. Thank you." – Lylas Eigenberg

CLC Mission Helper Trip to Nepal – The following was Larry's blog post from Nepal this past Tuesday: "*Why go? I have been enabled. He opened doors back home, He promises His Word will NOT return void. We will not see the results, but He has promised—leave that up to Me. Everything is in His hands. Praise the LORD for opportunities, especially unseen, to share His Word. Praise the LORD for He is ALWAYS with us—wherever we are.*" You can read more posts from the trip blog and see pictures at: www.2025clcmhtnepal.blogspot.com.

VBS Fliers – Please consider taking some fliers from the entryway for handing out or posting around your town!

The Introit

Ps. 27:1-5

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

P The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

C When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

P Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

C One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

P For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

P O Lord, grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by Your governance that Your Church may joyfully serve You in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that

Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶ So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you." And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am

I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.



Romans 12:14-21

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Confession of Faith

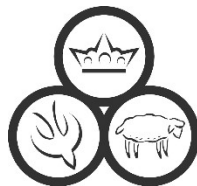
The Apostles' Creed

C 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 #395:1-5, 7

"O God, Thou Faithful God"

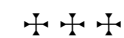
✠ The Sermon ✠



Luke 6:36-42

Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." ³⁹ He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰ A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. ⁴¹ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴² How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

Your Father is Merciful



The Offertory

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C *♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #442

"Lord of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠