

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

October 20th - 25th, 2025

Mon Matthew 13:44-52 The rulership of heaven is not only a treasure, but it reaches out to all ("fish of every kind" v47). At the end of the world comes the separation of the wicked from the righteous (v49).

Tues Acts 20:17-21 Paul bids farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus and reminds them how he lived among them. During hard times and good times he taught repentance toward God and faith in Jesus.

Wed Acts 20:22-27 The Holy Spirit warns Paul of chains and afflictions waiting for him, and he does not expect to see the Ephesians again, but his main concern remains to testify of the gospel of God's grace (v24).

Thurs Acts 20:28-38 Paul urges the elders to be always on the alert, guarding the flock given into their care by the Holy Spirit (v28). He therefore entrusts them to God and to the powerful word of His grace (v32).

Fri 1 Kings 18:21-40 God's prophet Elijah demonstrates the difference between the helpless idol Baal and the mighty God. Then comes the separation between those serving Baal and those serving the Lord.

Sat Deuteronomy 21:18-21 Among the children of Israel, the separation of the stubborn and rebellious (v18) from the faithful and righteous even reached into the home and involved parents of faithless offspring.

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18th Sunday after Trinity

October 19th, 2025

Organist: Kathy Lueck



Called to be SAINTS

1 Corinthians 1:2



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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #545

"The Morning Sun is Brightly Beaming"

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

G Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Based on Psalm 143

P O Lord, hear our prayer, listen to our cries for mercy, and in Your faithfulness, come to our relief. Do not bring Your servants into judgment, for no one living is righteous before You. Answer us quickly, O Lord; our spirits fail. Do not hide Your face from us, for we have put our trust in You. Show us the way we should go, for to You we lift up our souls. Teach us to do Your will, for You are our God.

G Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. Like the disciples, I have boldly declared loyalty to you only to fail to proclaim Your name; I have foolishly listened to the devil's lies only to be crushed with guilt and shame.

Moment of silence for private confession.

P Jesus says to His people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of Your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

G Yes, I believe.

P Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

Response: TLH #141 *"Enslaved by Sin and Bound in Chains"*

G ♪ **Jesus, the Lord, the mighty God,**

An all-sufficient ransom paid. O matchless price!

His precious blood For vile, rebellious traitors shed.

Amazing goodness! Love divine!

**Oh, may our grateful hearts adore The matchless grace
nor yield to sin Nor wear its cruel fetters more!**

Des Moines Preaching Station – A group of CLC Lutherans from around the Des Moines area will be hosting their inaugural service on Sunday, November 9th, at 10:30 am. For more information, contact Pastor Paul Krause.

Minnesota Joint Mission Fest – We will be hosting a joint mission fest with the other area CLC congregations on November 9 at 4:00 pm. Be sure to mark it in your calendars!

CLC Call News – Pastor Matthew Ude of Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Emeritus Michael Eichstadt has **returned** the vacancy call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has **received** the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI, has **received** the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. <> Professor Mark Weis has **received** the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has **received** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI.

Ushers	10/19	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R
	10/26	Kendall B, Larry B.
	11/2	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
Cleaning	This Week – The Boernsens (wk. 1)	
	Up Next – Lueck, Liepold	

The Offertory

WS p. 16

- G** *♩ 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 #367

"Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus"

✠ 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.

G Amen!

Hymn: TLH #399:1, 3-5

"Thee Will I Love, My Strength"

✠ ✠ ✠

October Quarterly Meeting – The voting members of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our third quarterly meeting today after the noon potluck meal. Besides regular Board reports, Agenda items will include: Transfer of Stephanie (Kazemba) Lau to Messiah, Eau Claire; Transfer of Jacob Olmanson to Immanuel, Mankato; Auditing of the Church, School, and Cemetery accounts; Setting the Fall Worship Schedule; Details about hosting the Joint Mission Festival Service on November 9; Election Meeting date and installation date for elected (re-elected) officers; Annual Meeting date.

Adult Choir – Just a reminder that the choir did start meeting for practice again last week. Practices are Sunday mornings at 8:30 am. Feel free to join us!

The Introit

Ps. 122:1, 6, 8-9; Liturgical Text

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

- P** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, and let your prophets be proven faithful.
- G** **Hear the prayer of your servants, according to the blessing of Aaron upon your people.**
- P** I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
- G** **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May they be secure who love you!**
- P** For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!"
- G** **For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.**

Collect Prayer of the Day

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

- P** O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.



Deut. 10:12-21

"And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your

God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good? ¹⁴ Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. ¹⁵ Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. ¹⁶ Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn. ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the

great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. ¹⁸ He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. ¹⁹ Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. ²⁰ You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. ²¹ He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen.



1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother

Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge-- ⁶ even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you-- ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸ who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin

Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #289 *"The Law Commands and Makes Us Know"*



Matthew 22:34-46

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered

together. ³⁵ And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." ⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, ⁴² saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." ⁴³ He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴ "'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'"? ⁴⁵ If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" ⁴⁶ And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

"Who Am I?" "Who Is Jesus?"