Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Aug. 28 – Sept. 02

Mon John 8:31-36 Jesus calls upon believers to remain in His Word. This promises a two-fold blessing: to know the truth about spiritual (not political) slavery and to set them free as members of God's household.

Tues Acts 16:9-15 Paul and his group of missionaries had been hindered by the Spirit from preaching in the provinces of Asia and Bithynia. At Troas their perplexity is solved by a special vision, and they are swiftly brought to the European continent to proclaim the saving Word in Macedonia.

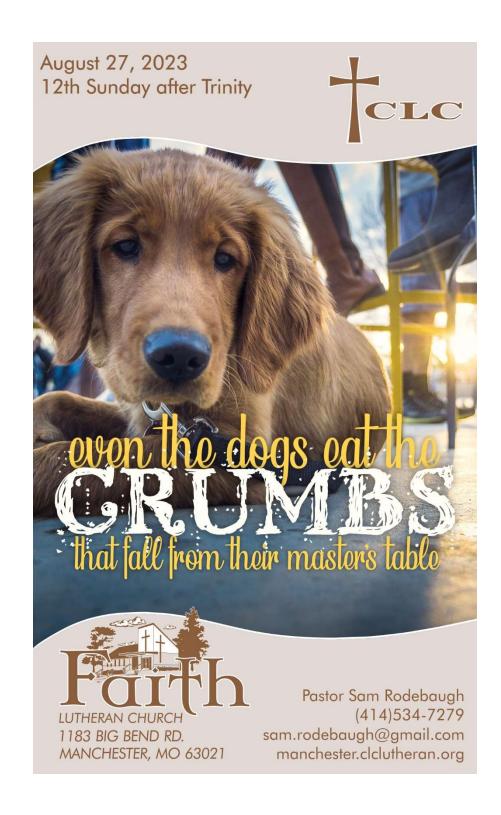
Wed Isaiah 29:18-21 The LORD's prophet sees a day of freedom coming, freedom from deafness to the Word and from blindness to the Light. There will be joy in the LORD and deliverance from mockery and evil.

Thur Mark 2:23-28 Jesus defends His disciples, who are under scrutiny by the Pharisees and accused of breaking the Sabbath rest while they followed Him, who came to give rest to the heavily burdened.

Fri Ephesians 4:1-6 Paul, a slave of Christ, does not seek freedom from this "bondage" but urges the Ephesian Christians to make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the "bond of peace" (v3). This is the Lord's doing, that they are one!

Sat Colossians 2:16-19 So many of the Old Testament regulations were pictures of the Savior who was still coming! When He came, however, it was not so they could continue clinging to the pictures, but rather to give them freedom to look to Him who is the Head of the body.





+ Opening Prayer +

Hymn: TLH #31 "When All Thy Mercies, O My God"

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

Confession of Our Sins Congregation We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

- 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.
- ☑ ♪ Who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
- □ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- O Almighty God, our Maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your 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)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given us His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives the power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. <u>Man Up! Weekend</u> - The 2023 ManUp! Men's Weekend will be held September 21-24, 2023, at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. The weekend will offer strength and

encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Register



and send in your payment before August 31st for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after September 1st. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: <u>http://www.manup.clclutheran.org</u> and clicking on the Registration Form. Sign up today!

<u>**CLC Call News</u>** - Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran, Rapid City, SD *is considering the call* from Calvary Lutheran Church in Marquette, MI.</u>

Weekly Sermon Podcast - For nearly 65 years, the CLC's Ministry by Mail has been producing print sermons for distribution. Originally this was done by postal mail, especially for members living at a distance from their home church or serving in the military. With the arrival of the internet, sermons began being sent by email and posted online (www.lutheransermons.org). This past Advent, Ministry by Mail began offering audio versions of their sermons through weekly Podcast services. You can find these sermons on most major podcast platforms such as Google, Apple Podcasts, and Spotify by searching "CLC Ministry by Mail." Hit "subscribe" or "follow" to receive notifications of weekly uploads. Contact Ministry by Mail editor, Nathan Pfeiffer, for more information – editor@lutheransermons.org

<u>Bible Class</u> – This morning, we began a series comparing the teachings of different Christian religions. If you cannot attend the study but would like a copy of the material for your own personal study, please speak with Pastor.

ours, then we shall be guiltless with respect to your oath that you have made us swear."²¹ And she said, "According to your words, so be it." Then she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

Mercy for Rahab/Mercy for Me

$$+++$$

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

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: WS #777 "Amazing Grace — How Sweet the Sound"

+ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer +

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

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.

🖸 🎜 Amen, amen, a – men.

Hymn: TLH #20 "God of

"God of Mercy, God of Grace"

Prayer Opportunities:

- **Carol Benter** is continuing her care at New Haven Care Center. Please join in praying together with her and Len for her health and strength!
- Our Brothers and Sisters-in-Christ in Washington and British Columbia have been facing the threat of wild fires. Some have been displaced from their homes. Pray for the Lord's protection and care!

The Introit

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

- P The Lord is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed.
- To you, O Lord, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me, lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.
- P Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help, when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.
- Blessèd be the Lord! For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.
- The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

The Gloria Patri

TLH #250:1

Latin for "Glory be to the Father." A Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before
Thee. All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heaven above
adore Thee. Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.

Collect Prayer of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your lovingkindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

🖸 🤈 Amen.



And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. $^{\rm 22}$

And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.



Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry

¹⁴ in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them.¹⁵ For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?...²⁸ As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith.

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 Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #510

"Savior, Sprinkle Many Nations"



Before the men lay down, [Rahab] came up to them on the roof ⁹ and said to the

men, "I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you. ¹⁰ For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. ¹¹ And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the LORD your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. ¹² Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father's house, and give me a sure sign ¹³ that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death." ¹⁴ And the men said to her, "Our life for yours even to death! If you do not tell this business of ours, then when the LORD gives us the land we will deal kindly and faithfully with you."¹⁵ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was built into the city wall, so that she lived in the wall. ¹⁶ And she said to them, "Go into the hills, or the pursuers will encounter you, and hide there three days until the pursuers have returned. Then afterward you may go your way." ¹⁷ The men said to her, "We will be guiltless with respect to this oath of yours that you have made us swear.¹⁸ Behold, when we come into the land, you shall tie this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and you shall gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your father's household.¹⁹ Then if anyone goes out of the doors of your house into the street, his blood shall be on his own head, and we shall be guiltless. But if a hand is laid on anyone who is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head. ²⁰ But if you tell this business of