

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

November 6 – November 11, 2023

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

-Psalm 119:105

Mon Luke 9:57-58 What does it mean to "follow Jesus"? In Luke 9 He has set His face to go to Jerusalem, where He will offer Himself in sacrifice for the sins of the world. Following Jesus will not always mean "smooth sailing" and comfortable accommodations in this life.

Tues Luke 9:59-62 When Jesus calls people to follow Him, they are willing, but various activities, not wrong in themselves, threaten to come between them and the Savior's call. But anything that hinders us from following Him is not to our benefit.

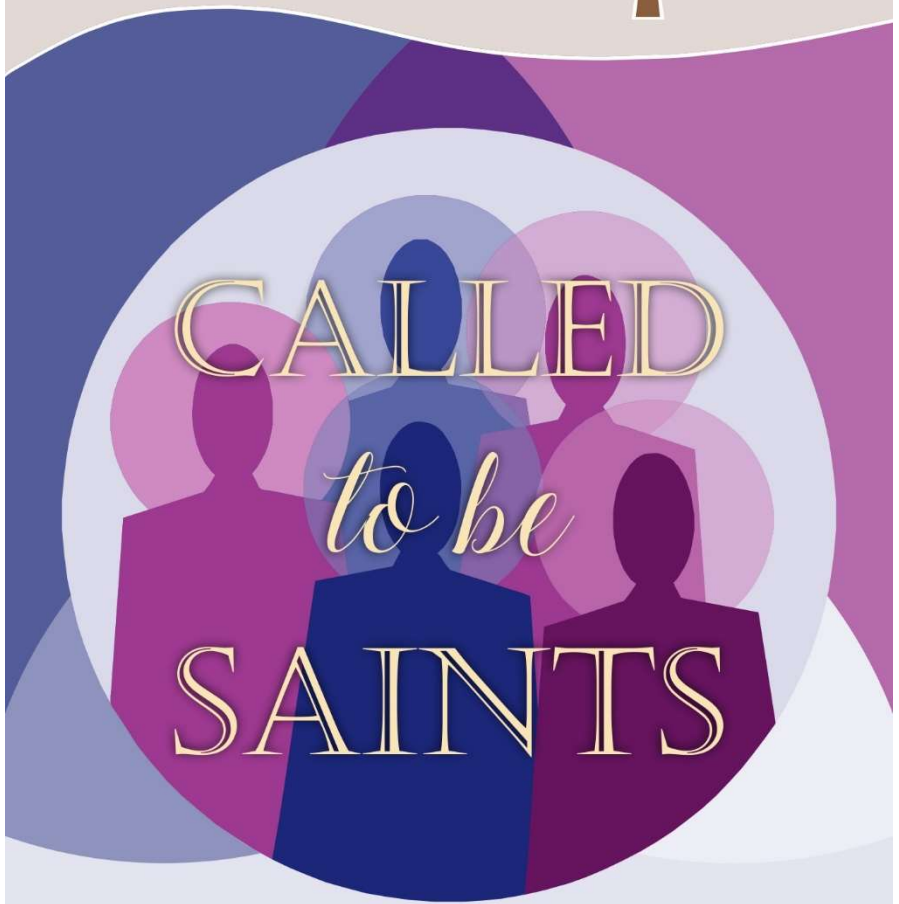
Wed Hebrews 13:1-3 For the Hebrew Christians following Jesus meant showing love to one another, but it didn't stop there. Welcoming strangers (as did Abraham and Lot) also shows the love of Christ, who put Himself in our place to help us when we were helpless.

Thurs Hebrews 13:4-6 Following Jesus means showing His love also in the home, honoring marriage, and recognizing threats to our love of Christ, such as the love of money. To fight this threat, we do well to remember our Lord's promise to care for us and be with us always.

Fri Hebrews 13:7-9 As we follow Christ, we remember those who followed Him before us. Since He does not change, neither does the way set out before us change. That which was truly important then, is also truly important now.

Sat Proverbs 24:14-20 Following Christ, who became for us the Wisdom from God (1Co1:30), means not following or being envious of the wicked, but even loving our enemies, so that we do not celebrate when they stumble (v17).

November 5, 2023
All Saints Sunday



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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #471:1,3,5,6 "Hark! The Sound of Holy Voices"

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

C Amen.

P Pastor

C Congregation

Confession of Our Sins

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

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from conception. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

The Introit

Ps. 31:1, 3, 5; Rev. 7:14b

P These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

C In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

P For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.

C Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

P These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Missionary Evensen (Togo, West Africa) – Missionary Evensen recently had a kidney stone block his only kidney. **Pray** that he will have no further complications, as necessary surgical treatments may not be readily available. **Ask the Lord** to provide a quick and complete recovery so he can return to the work he has been called to.

Mexico – Bd of Missions member Jeff Radichel and Missionary Ohlmann recently visited Pastor Olvera, his family, and our brothers and sisters in Christ of the Iglesia Luterana Confessional Mexico. They discussed future plans for Gospel outreach and leadership training for lay leaders in one congregation and three preaching stations in Mexico. **Thank the Lord** for this opportunity to fellowship together around His Word. **Pray** for the Lord's blessings and provision as these new plans develop so that many more may be reached with God's saving word.

Missionary Ohlmann – Missionary Ohlmann is currently traveling and working in Asia until the middle of December. He will spend a few days in Tokyo, visiting a congregation once in fellowship with the CLC. From there, he will spend approx. six weeks working with the pastors and leaders of the Bangladesh Lutheran Church Mission (BLCM) and the Himalayan Church of the Lutheran Confession of Nepal (HCLCN). While in Bangladesh and Nepal, he will visit several congregations and preaching stations, conduct Pastoral Training Seminars, and be privileged to attend the Himalayan Bible Institute graduation. **Pray for** all that is necessary for these trips to be planned and take place. **Ask the Lord** to be with and bless his wife, Beth, her father, and their family while he is away. **Pray for** the Lord's love, wisdom, patience, and zeal during these visits that His name be glorified as the truth of His saving word is proclaimed and pastors are trained. You can read reports and see pictures from his travels and find more CLC Mission Prayer opportunities by visiting his blog at missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com

CLC Mission Prayer Opportunities

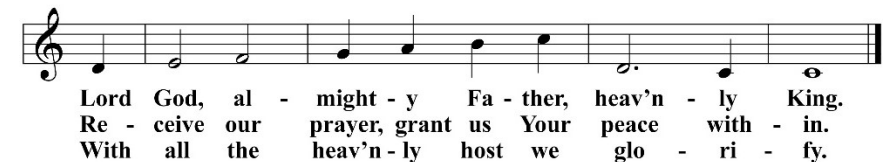
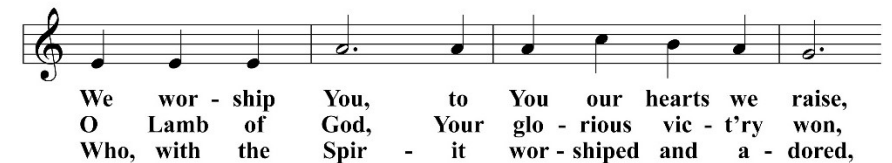
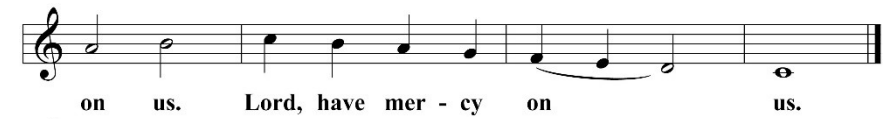
India (Southeast Asia) – Pastor Prem Kumar, a long-time pastor and leader of the CLC-India, lost his battle with kidney disease and was taken to be the Lord. He leaves behind a wife, two young children, and a large congregation of believers he has faithfully served for many years. **Thank the Lord** for providing this faithful servant for the work of His Kingdom and the harvest of souls in India. **Pray for the Lord's** comfort and assurance for his wife, children, family, congregation, and all those in the CLCI who mourn his passing and rejoice in his victory over the grave through faith in Jesus Christ.

Kate Sauers (USA) – Kate is the wife of Board of Missions member Pastor Rob Sauers. She was diagnosed with ALK-positive large-cell lymphoma cancer in late September. She has received two rounds of chemotherapy so far, and doctors report that she has responded well. **Thank the Lord** for blessing the treatments thus far and ask for His continued blessings on the remainder of the treatments she is scheduled to receive. Continue to **Pray for** courage, comfort, hope, strength, and trust in our Savior's love and plans for their family.

Liberia (West Africa) – Pastor Joseph's sister recently went to be with the Lord following a battle with liver cancer. With a presidential runoff taking place on November 14th, there is a lot of uncertainty and instability in Liberia right now. Pastor John Hein continues treatments for a rare and very aggressive form of thymic cancer. He will have more scans scheduled for November. **Pray for the Lord's comfort** as Pastor Joseph and his family mourn the loss of his sister and rejoice in victory over the grave through faith in Jesus. **Ask the Lord** to direct the affairs of the Liberian elections this month so that peace may prevail, and good government may serve His purpose. **Pray for the Lord's hand of healing** upon our brother, Pastor John Hein, so that the treatments he is receiving will rid his body of cancer. **Pray for good results** from the scans so Pastor Hein can begin planning for a visit to Liberia in January.

The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father"



Requested Prayers & the Collect Prayer of the Day

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

- ☐ . . . Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, and, together with them, may we come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



The Communion of Saints

1 John 3:1-3

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

☞ Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

☞ *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*These words are written that we may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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!

Hymn: TLH #463:1-6

"For All the Saints"

Out of Town – Pastor will be out of town during the middle of the week as he heads to Immanuel Lutheran High School to speak with the students about the public ministry. Please pray that the Lord would bless the trip and lead more workers into His harvest field! Please note that this means there will be **no** Wednesday Bible Class this week.

CLC Mission Development Fund: When the convention approved the calling of our third foreign missionary, it determined that the funding of that missionary would come fully from the MDF for the first year. The cost of funding that missionary is about \$80,000. Currently the MDF balance is enough to cover the cost of our third foreign missionary for the rest of this fiscal year and a few other essential projects, but without additional funds, we will not be able to fund other planned projects. The Board of Missions has already put a hold on all other projects including all funding of Bibles and other Christian literature, church building assistance, and many planned outreach projects. We pray that the members of the CLC will remember this work in their prayers and their offerings.

CLC Call News - Pastor Luke Bernthal of St. Stephen's Lutheran of Mt. View, CA **is still considering** the call to Immanuel Lutheran of Mankato, MN. <> Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran Church of Vernon, British Columbia, Canada, **is still considering** the call to Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI, and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI.

C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
 light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
 tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
 bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

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 #478

"The Saints on Earth and Those Above"

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ They shall hunger no more,

neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Behold a Host, Arrayed in White

- I. God shows us who they are
- II. God shows us what they enjoy

The Offertory

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

- 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 #656

"Behold a Host, Arrayed in White"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts!
- C** We lift them up to the Lord.

The Order of Holy Communion



- P** It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should, at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

- C** ♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth, adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

✠ 6 ✠

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

- C** ♪ **O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose blood, once shed, true life restored, Impart Your joy, our faith increase. Sustain with Your mercy and grant us your peace.**

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

✠ The Distribution of the Lord's Supper ✠

*I come, O Savior, to Thy Table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole:
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!*

✠ 7 ✠