

Taking Gathered Worship Home

The First Week of Christmas – Sunday, December 31, 2023

"Taking Gathered Worship Home" (TGWH) has been developed for you to use in the private worship of your home, whether you are married or single, and whether or not you have children. It is a tool to knit us together throughout the church year. While we would encourage the use of TGWH in its entirety, you are encouraged to adapt the offerings to your particular circumstances. The prayer is taken from "Lutheran Worship" and the psalm readings are taken from the "Book of Common Prayer" and the daily readings are from "The Book of Common Worship."

Direct us, O Lord, in all our actions by your gracious favor; and further us with your continual help that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in your name, we may glorify your holy name and finally by your mercy receive eternal life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Readings

SUNDAY | 7th day of Christmas

Morning Psalter – 93, 96

1 Samuel 1:1-28

Colossians 1:9-20

Luke 2:22-40

Evening Psalter – 34

♪ *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* (p. 2)

MONDAY | 8th day of Christmas

Morning Psalter – 34

Isaiah 62:1-5, 10-12

Revelation 19:11-16

Matthew 1:18-25

Evening Psalter – 33

♪ *Angels from the Realms of Glory* (p. 4)

TUESDAY | 9th day of Christmas

Morning Psalter – 34

1 Kings 19:1-8

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:1-14

Evening Psalter – 33

♪ *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come* (p. 6)

WEDNESDAY | 10th day of Christmas

Morning Psalter – 68

1 Kings 19:9-18

Ephesians 4:17-32

John 6:15-27

Evening Psalter – 72

♪ *Angels We Have Heard on High* (p. 7)

THURSDAY | 11th day of Christmas

Morning Psalter – 85, 87

Joshua 3:14—4:7

Ephesians 5:1-21

John 9:1-12, 35-38

Evening Psalter – 89:1-29

♪ *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen* (p. 11)

FRIDAY | 12th day of Christmas

Morning Psalter – 2, 110

Jonah 2:2-9

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 11:17-27, 38-44

Evening Psalter – 29, 98

♪ *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* (p. 13)

SATURDAY | Epiphany Day

Morning Psalter – 46, 97

Isaiah 49:1-7

Revelation 21:22-27

Matthew 12:14-21

Evening Psalter – 96, 100

♪ *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* (p. 14)

Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 12. Since then, by the righteous judgment of God, we deserve temporal and eternal punishment, is there no way by which we may escape that punishment, and be again received into favor?

A. God will have his justice satisfied: (a) and therefore we must make this full satisfaction, either by ourselves, or by another. (b)

(a) Gen.2:17; Exod.20:5; Exod.23:7; Ezek.18:4; Matt.5:26; 2 Thess.1:6; Luke 16:2. (b) Rom.8:3,4.

Q. 13. Can we ourselves then make this satisfaction?

A. By no means; but on the contrary we daily increase our debt. (a)

(a) Job 9:2,3; Job 15:15,16; Job 4:18,19; Ps.130:3; Matt.6:12; Matt.18:25; Matt.16:26.

Q. 14. Can there be found anywhere, one, who is a mere creature, able to satisfy for us?

A. None; for, first, God will not punish any other creature for the sin which man has committed; (a) and further, no mere creature can sustain the burden of God's eternal wrath against sin, so as to deliver others from it. (b)

(a) Ezek.18:4; Gen.3:17; Heb.2:14-17. (b) Nah.1:6; Ps.130:3.

Q. 15. What sort of a mediator and deliverer then must we seek for?

A. For one who is very man, and perfectly (a) righteous; (b) and yet more powerful than all creatures; that is, one who is also very God. (c)

(a) 1 Cor.15:21; Jer.33:16; Isa.53:9; 2 Cor.5:21. (b) Heb.7:16,26. (c) Isa.7:14; Isa.9:6; Rom.9:5; Jer.23:5,6; Jer.23:6; Luke 11:22.

In Preparation for the Divine Service:

January 7, 2024, The First Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Jon Herr

The Appointed Lessons:

Psalm 72:1-15

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:1-13

Matthew 2:1-12