

FAITH IN THE WORD

For the week of The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 19, AD 2025 – January 25, AD 2025

“What is the Sacrament of the Altar?” The answer to that question is so utterly profound and life changing that we do well to daily meditate on it. In the season of Epiphany, we rejoice at the revelation of Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world. That revelation which includes the visit of the wise men, the Baptism of our Lord, the water turned to wine at Cana, the demonstration of the power of Christ’s word over creation and even death itself, and the Transfiguration of Jesus, has its culmination in the Lord’s Supper. There, Christ gives us, under bread and wine, His own Flesh and Blood which were sacrificed to atone for our sins. True Flesh and true Blood. Not empty symbols or representations. The Sacrament of the Altar is the Gospel given to us as food, elements which we can see and taste and touch. These elements bear with them the very promise of Jesus Himself that those who receive His Body and Blood in faith, receive the full and free forgiveness of all their sins. What is the Sacrament of the Altar? It is life. It is salvation. It is peace. It is hope. It is joy. It is forgiveness. All because it is Jesus for you. And what does He command you to do with this most precious gift which He has purchased for you by His death on the cross? Your Lord tells you clearly: “Take, eat. Drink of it, all of you.” Incredible! Simply receive what Christ your Savior gives and believe what He tells you about it. God grant that we daily hunger and thirst for such a profound and blessed gift.

The Catechism

As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to the household. Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

The Sacrament of the Altar, Part 1

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

THE ORDER OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER

INVOCATION

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

Romans 8:26 – Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Psalm 72

HYMN OF THE MONTH

“The People That in Darkness Sat” (LSB 412)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSLx0jKNxfM>

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

① SUNDAY	JOHN 2:1-11	
② MONDAY	2 KINGS 20:12-21	2 CORINTHIANS 6:1-7:1
③ TUESDAY	2 CHRON. 33:1-20	2 CORINTHIANS 7:1-18
④ WEDNESDAY	2 CHRON. 34:1-28	2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-24
⑤ THURSDAY	JEREMIAH 1:1-19	2 CORINTHIANS 9:1-15
⑥ FRIDAY	ACTS 16:1-5	
⑦ SATURDAY	2 KINGS 5:1-15A ¹	ROMANS 12:16-21

¹ SATURDAY: – CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL, ACTS 9:1-22

PRAYERS

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER

SUNDAY: *The joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for our congregation's faithfulness to the Word of God.*

MONDAY: *Faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; our calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; government; peace; for the leaders of our congregation.*

TUESDAY: *Deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

WEDNESDAY: *For marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; parents who must rear their children alone; for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

THURSDAY: *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; for our congregation, our pastor and his family.*

FRIDAY: *For the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

SATURDAY: *For faithfulness to the end; the physically and mentally sick and those who are dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Those in our congregation who are homebound: Judy Michels, Melanie Obenhaus, Vicky Cantrell, Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan.
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Ken Lawrence (25)
- Baptismal birthdays celebrated this week: Brianna Starr (22), Brenna Hackbart (23), Nancy Cawood (25).
- Thanksgiving for good test results for Chris Purcell.
- Ken Lawrence in thanksgiving for less hip and back pain and discomfort.
- Sherry Burke who continues to be hospitalized.
- Those experiencing unemployment: Matt and Michael.
- Emma Casanova, Susan Dickson, and Brianna Mallon for protection of mother and child in pregnancy.
- Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan, Doug Drawe, Antonia, Deanna, Devin Jackson, Greg McClure, Dana Evans, Rush, Christina Null, Gaye, Georgette, Dan Kostoff, Jill, Ninette DeYoung, Rachel Preuss, Kristina Wishmeyer, Brandon Rhodes.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

The Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 26, 2025

Catechism: The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed and meaning

Hymns: 913, 401, 412, 625, 596, 587, 923

Readings: 2 Kings 5:1-15a, Romans 1:8-17, Matthew 8:1-13

