

[*The Daily Morning or Evening Prayer, the Benedicamus, and the Benediction*]:

(*Morning*): We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this night from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would keep us this day also from sin and every evil, that all our doings and life may please You; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

(*Evening*): We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this day from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would forgive us all our sins, wherever we have done wrong, and graciously keep us this night; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit † be with us all. Amen.

Then, if it is in the morning, go joyfully to your work, according to your vocations in life, in faith toward God and in love toward your neighbor; or, if it is at the close of the day, go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well shall fare.

Commemoration of the Prophet Ezekiel

Sunday, 21 July

Ezekiel, son of Buzi, was a priest, called by God to be a prophet to the exiles during the Babylonian captivity (Ez. 1:3). In 597 B.C. King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonian army brought the king of Judah and thousands of the best citizens of Jerusalem—including Ezekiel—to Babylon (2 Kgs 24:8–16). Ezekiel's priestly background profoundly stamped his prophecy, as the holiness of God and the Temple figure prominently in his messages (for example, Ezekiel 9–10 and 40–48). From 593 B.C. to the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in 586 B.C., Ezekiel prophesied the inevitability of divine judgment on Jerusalem, on the exiles in Babylon, and on seven nations that surrounded Israel (Ezekiel 1–32). Jerusalem would fall, and the exiles would not quickly return, as a just consequence of their sin. Once word reached Ezekiel that Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed, his message became one of comfort and hope. Through him God promised that his people would experience future restoration, renewal and revival in the coming Messianic kingdom (Ezekiel 33–48). Much of the strange symbolism of Ezekiel's prophecies was later employed in the Revelation to St. John.

The Feast of St. Mary Magdalene, Penitent

Monday, 22 July

Whenever the New Testament Gospels name the women who followed Jesus, St. Mary Magdalene is listed first (John 19:25 is the only exception), perhaps because she was the first to see the risen Savior. St. Luke (8:2) reports that Jesus cast out seven demons from her. Through the centuries she has often been identified with the repentant "woman of the city" who anointed Jesus' feet as He sat at the table in the Pharisee's home (Luke 7:36–56); as well as with Mary, the sister of Martha, in Bethany. According to the Gospels she saw Jesus die; she witnessed His burial; and she was the first to see Him alive again following His Resurrection (John 20:11–18). Because she was sent by the Lord to announce that good news to His disciples, she has been called "the apostle to the Apostles."

The Feast of St. James the Elder, Apostle

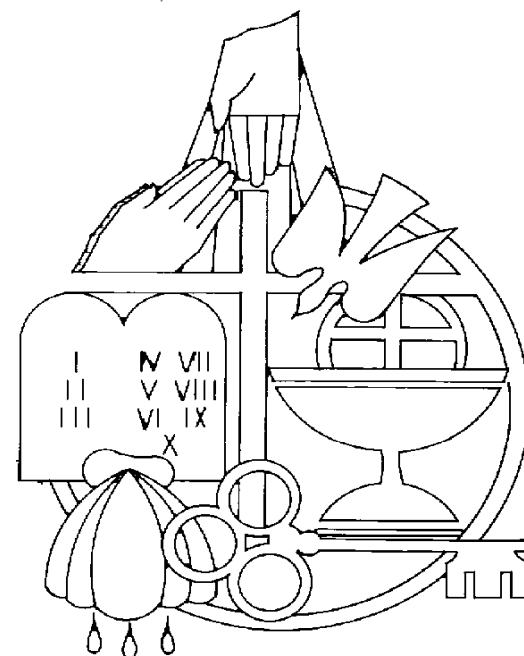
Thursday, 25 July

St. James with his brother John, sons of Zebedee and Salome (see Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40), were fishermen in Galilee who were called with Peter and his brother Andrew to follow Jesus (Matthew 4:18–22). In the Gospel lists of Jesus' Apostles, James is listed following Peter and preceding John. Together these three appear as leaders of the Twelve. Because James precedes John, it is reasoned that James is the elder of the brothers. The Acts of the Apostles records that James was beheaded by Herod Agrippa I, probably between A.D. 42 and 44 (Acts 12:1–2). Thus James was the first of the Twelve to seal his Apostolic Ministry as a Martyr.

Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church

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† DAILY CATECHESIS ON THE WAY †

TO AND FROM EMMAUS WITH JESUS

† THE FOURTH WEEK OF APOSTLES' TIDE †

*"They were continually devoting themselves to the Apostolic Doctrine and to the Communion, to the Breaking of the Bread, and to the Prayers."
(Acts of the Apostles 2:42)*

† † †

The Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord

VII. The Lord's Supper (continued...)

For the true and almighty words of Jesus Christ which He spake at the first institution were efficacious not only at the first Supper, but they endure, are valid, operate, and are still efficacious [their force, power, and efficacy endure and avail even to the present], so that in all places where the Supper is celebrated according to the institution of Christ, and His words are used, the body and blood of Christ are truly present, distributed, and received, because of the power and efficacy of the words which Christ spake at the first Supper. For where His institution is observed and His words are spoken over the bread and cup [wine], and the consecrated bread and cup [wine] are distributed, Christ Himself, through the spoken words, is still efficacious by virtue of the first institution, through His word, which He wishes to be there repeated. As Chrysostom says (in *Serm. de Pass.*) in his Sermon concerning the Passion: Christ Himself prepared this table and blesses it; for no man makes the bread and wine set before us the body and blood of Christ, but Christ Himself who was crucified for us. The words are spoken by the mouth of the priest, but by God's power and grace, by the word, where He speaks: "This is My body," the elements presented are consecrated in the Supper. And just as the declaration, Gen. 1:28: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth," was spoken only once, but is ever efficacious in nature, so that it is fruitful and multiplies, so also this declaration ["This is My body; this is My blood"] was spoken once, but even to this day and to His advent it is efficacious, and works so that in the Supper of the Church His true body and blood are present.

Luther also [writes concerning this very subject in the same manner], *Tom. VI, Jena, Fol. 99*: This His command and institution have this power and effect that we administer and receive not mere bread and wine, but His body and blood, as His words declare: "This is My body," etc.; "This is My blood," etc., so that it is not our work or speaking, but the command and ordination of Christ that makes the bread the body, and the wine the blood, from the beginning of the first Supper even to the end of the world, and that through our service and office they are daily distributed.

Also, *Tom. III, Jena, Fol. 446*: Thus here also, even though I should pronounce over all bread the words: This is Christ's body, nothing, of course, would result therefrom; but when in the Supper we say, according to His institution and command: "This is My body," it is His body, not on account of our speaking or word uttered [because these words, when uttered, have this efficacy], but because of His command-that He has commanded us thus to speak and to do, and has united His command and act with our speaking.

Now, in the administration of the Holy Supper the words of institution are to be publicly spoken or sung before the congregation distinctly and clearly, and should in no way be omitted [and this for very many and the most important reasons. First,] in order that obedience may be rendered to the command of Christ: This do [that therefore should not be omitted which Christ Himself did in the Holy Supper], and [secondly] that the faith of the hearers concerning the nature and fruit of this Sacrament (concerning the presence of the body and blood of Christ, concerning the forgiveness of sins, and all benefits which have been purchased by the death and shedding of the blood of Christ, and are bestowed upon us in Christ's testament) may be excited, strengthened, and confirmed by Christ's Word, and [besides] that the elements of bread and wine may be consecrated or blessed for this holy use, in order that the body and blood of Christ may therewith be administered to us to be eaten and to be drunk, as Paul declares [1 Cor. 10:16]: The cup of blessing which we bless, which indeed occurs in no other way than through the repetition and recitation of the words of institution.

Daily Themes for Intercessory Prayer:

- Sunday:** For the joy of the Resurrection; for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for vocations and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for Resurrection Lutheran Academy and other schools, our home schools, our colleges and seminaries; for good government and peace.
- Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.
- Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must rear their children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other servants of Christ and His Church; for the fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.
- Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for its spread throughout the whole world; for the persecuted; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for pastors as they prepare to administer Christ's holy gifts; for receptive hearts and minds on the Lord's Day.

In our Prayers this Week at Emmaus:

Zachariah Franck, son of Rev. Rob & Gayle Franck, that the Lord would continue to hold him and his family in His abiding mercy; and

The Sri Lankan hymnal committee, that God would grant them safe travels to Colombo for committee meetings this week, sustain their health, and grant that their time would be fruitful in the development of a hymnal for the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church; and

Amelia Margaret Stuckwisch, daughter of Justinian & Cecilia Stuckwisch, received into the Kingdom of Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism this morning; and

Rebekah Stuckwisch, Azrielle Horner, Joy Harrison, Oly'Anna Harrison, and all expectant mothers, their husbands and families, and their unborn children.

in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and ☩ the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father Who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever & ever. Amen.

[The Collects of the Week, Intercessions for each day of the week, and Special Petitions]:

Collect for the Fourth Week of Apostles' Tide:

Grant to us, Lord, we beseech You, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may by You be enabled to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Collect for the feast of St. Mary Magdalene (Monday, July 22):

Almighty God, who has given Your only Son to be unto us both a Sacrifice for sin and also an Example of godly life, give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive this His inestimable benefit and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of His most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Collect for the feast of St. James the Elder (Thursday, July 25):

Grant, O Lord, that, as Your Apostle Saint James readily obeyed the calling of Your Son Jesus Christ, we may by Your grace be enabled to forsake all worldly and carnal affections and to follow Him alone; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

The Fourth Week of Apostles' Tide

21 – 27 July 2024

This Week in the Church Year

Deceit has its strength in masquerading as the truth. False prophets speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the Lord. They deny the judgment of the Lord, speaking peace to the unrepentant, when in truth there is condemnation and wrath. "You will recognize them by their fruits" – the "fruits" of a true prophet are not outward righteousness or success but faithfulness in proclaiming the Word of the Lord. This is the will of the Father in Heaven, that pastors take heed to the flock, the Father's adopted ones, warning them against the wolves and their lies, and shepherding the Church of God which He purchased with His own Blood. For indeed, the Cross is that good tree bearing good fruit - namely, the Body and Blood of Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Emphasis: Beware of False Prophets

The Order of Daily Catechesis in Word and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of daily catechesis as you and your family are able. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

[The Opening Versicles and Psalmody]:

O Lord, open my lips. And my mouth will declare Your praise.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me. Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Psalm 1

(and/or one or more of the appointed Psalms listed below)

<i>Psalms</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<i>Morning</i>	110, 150	62, 89, 145	13, 146	96, 147:1–11	116, 147:12–20	85, 148	61, 149
<i>Evening</i>	66, 56, 23	73, 8	36, 5	132, 134	26, 130	25, 40	139, 98

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The Verse: Ephesians 5:8–9

Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true.

Readings for the Fourth Week of Apostles' Tide:

Sunday, 21 July 2024 *(The Prophet Ezekiel)*

1 Samuel 4:1–22; Acts 16:23–40

Monday, 22 July 2024 *(St. Mary Magdalene, Penitent)*

1 Samuel 5:1—6:3, 10–16; Acts 18:1–11, 23–28

(Proverbs 31:10–31; Romans 5:18–21; St. Luke 7:36–50)

Tuesday, 23 July 2024

1 Samuel 6:19—7:17; Acts 19:1–22

Wednesday, 24 July 2024

1 Samuel 8:1–22; Acts 21:15–36

Thursday, 25 July 2024 *(St. James the Elder, Apostle)*

1 Samuel 9:1–27; Acts 21:37—22:16

(Acts 11:27—12:5; Romans 8:28–39; St. Matthew 20:20–28)

Friday, 26 July 2024

1 Samuel 10:1–27; Acts 22:17–29

Saturday, 27 July 2024

1 Samuel 12:1–25; Acts 22:30—23:11

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: Christian Questions & Answers

After Individual Confession and instruction in the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Holy Supper, the Pastor may ask, or Christians may ask themselves these questions:

1. *Do you believe that you are a sinner?*

Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.

2. *How do you know this?*

From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.

3. *Are you sorry for your sins?*

Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

4. *What have you deserved from God because of your sins?*

His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.

5. *Do you hope to be saved?*

Yes, that is my hope.

6. *In whom then do you trust?*

In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.

7. *Who is Christ?*

The Son of God, true God and Man.

8. *How many Gods are there?*

Only one, but there are three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

9. *What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?*

He died for me and shed His blood for me on the Cross for the forgiveness of sins.

Note: *These questions and answers are no child's play, but are drawn up with great earnestness of purpose by the venerable and pious Dr. Luther for both young and old. Let each one take heed and likewise consider it a serious matter; for Saint Paul writes to the Galatians in chapter six: 'Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked.'*

The Hymn of the Week

"IN GOD, MY FAITHFUL GOD"

LSB #745

[Daily Prayer: Invocation, Apostles' Creed, Kyrie Eleison, and the Our Father]:

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

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And