

# Our Family Daily Prayers Easter 1 to Trinity 7 2018



The Black Monastery was given to  
Martin Luther and Catherina von Bora,  
as a wedding present in 1525.

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# Our Family Daily Prayers – 2018

*Follow the order for Daily Devotions in Lutheran Worship, p.293.*

**Week leading to Quasimodo Geniti:** April 2-8, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 81 (Not in LW)

**Hymn** - #145 "I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives"

**Daily Readings** –

2 Monday No service	Exodus 15:1-18	Hebrews 9:1-28
	<b>Easter Monday</b> Exodus 15:1-18, Acts 10:34-43, Luke 24:13-35	
3 Tuesday 10:30 AM	Exodus 15:19-16:12	Hebrews 10:1-18
	<b>Easter Tuesday</b> Daniel 3:8-28, Acts 13:26-33, Luke 24:36-48	
4 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Exodus 16:13-35	Hebrews 10:19-39
	<b>Easter Wednesday</b> Acts 3:12-19, John 21:1-14	
	<b>Catechesis on John 20:19-31</b>	
5 Thursday	Exodus 17:1-16	Hebrews 11:1-29
	<b>Easter Thursday</b> Acts 8:26-40, John 20:10-18	
6 Friday	Exodus 18:5-27	Hebrews 12:1-24
	<b>Easter Friday</b> 1 Peter 3:18-22, Matthew 28:16-20	
7 Saturday	Exodus 19:1-25	Hebrews 13:1-21
	<b>Easter Saturday</b> 1 Peter 2:1-10, John 20:1-9	
8 Sunday 10:15 AM	Exodus 20:1-24	Luke 4:1-15
	<b>Quasimodo Geniti</b> Ezekiel 37:1-14, 1 John 5:4-10, John 20:19-31	

**Family:** “Small wonder that married folk for the most part experience little but bitterness and anguish. They have no knowledge of God’s word and will concerning their estate, and are therefore just as wretched as monks and nuns since both lack the comfort and assurance of God’s good pleasure. This is why it is impossible for them to endure outward bitterness and drudgery, for it is too much for a man to have to suffer both inward and outward bitterness. If they inwardly fail to realize that their estate is pleasing in the sight of God, bitterness is already there; if they then seek an outward pleasure therein, they fail to find it. Bitterness is joined with bitterness, and thence arises of necessity the loud outcry and the writings against women and the estate of marriage.

## Collect for Trinity Seven

O God, whose never-failing providence orders all things both in heaven and earth, we humbly implore You to put away from us all hurtful things and give to us those things that be profitable for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**



While at Wartburg Castle, Luther translated the New Testament from Greek into German. It reportedly only took him ten weeks. The small cell Luther stayed in, called “Luther’s Room,” can be visited by tourists today, where they can see a desk and chair with a bible and portrait of Luther on display. (Read more: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/follow-martin-luthers-footsteps-through-germany>).

**Week leading to Trinity Seven:** July 9-15, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 34 (LW, p. 324-325)

**Hymn** – #249 “Your Table I Approach”

**Daily Readings** –

9 Monday	Judges 4:1-24 <i>Optional: Judges 5:1-31</i>	Acts 14:1-18
10 Tuesday	Judges 6:1-24	Acts 14:19-15:5
11 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Judges 6:25-40 <b>Catechesis on Mark 8:1-9</b>	Acts 15:6-21
12 Thursday	Judges 7:1-23 <i>Optional: Judges 7:24-12:15</i>	Galatians 1:1-24
13 Friday	Judges 13:1-25 <i>Optional: Ruth 1:1-4:22</i>	Galatians 2:1-21
14 Saturday	Judges 14:1-20	Galatians 3:1-22
15 Sunday 10:15 AM	Judges 15:1-16:3 <b>Trinity Seven</b> Genesis 2:7-17, Romans 6:19-23, Mark 8:1-9	Galatians 3:23-4:11

**Family:** “The papacy looked beautiful; all was peace and tranquility. Even though there were many monks and monastic orders, all were subject to one head and authority, the pope. Consequently, there was unity of doctrine and belief. This makes an impression on people, and for this men strive. **It would be a fine thing to have one head rule over all. Yet this is impossible, since neither Christ nor a prophet nor an apostle has been able to accomplish it. Therefore resign yourself to the fact, and be prepared for discord and unrest as soon as the Gospel is preached.** This is also borne out by the parable in the Gospel (Luke 11:21–22): ‘When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace; but when one stronger than he assails him and overcomes him, he divides his spoil.’ **This is the fault, not of the Gospel but of the devil, who cannot tolerate the Gospel**” (Luther’s Works, v. 23, p. 290-291).

**Catechism** - The Ten Commandments: **The Third Commandment**  
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.  
*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

God’s work and ordinance must and will be accepted and borne on the strength of God’s word and assurance; otherwise they do damage and become unbearable. Therefore, St. Paul tempers his words nicely when he says, I Corinthians 7[:28], “Those who marry will have worldly troubles,” that is, outward bitterness. He is silent on the inner, spiritual delight, however, because outward bitterness is common to both believers and unbelievers; indeed, it is characteristic of the estate of marriage. No one can have real happiness in marriage who does not recognize in firm faith that this estate together with all its works, however insignificant, is pleasing to God and precious in his sight. These works are indeed insignificant and mean; yet it is from them that we all trace our origin, we have all had need of them. Without them no man would exist. For this reason they are pleasing to God who has so ordained them, and thereby graciously cares for us like a kind and loving mother” (Luther’s Works, v.45 p.42-43).

**Catechism** - Table of Duties: *To Bishops, Pastors, and Preachers*  
The overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. 1 Tim. 3:2–4  
He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 1 Tim. 3:6  
He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. Titus 1:9

**Collect for Quasimodo Geniti**  
Grant, we implore You, almighty God, that we who have celebrated the solemnities of the Lord's resurrection may, by the help of Your grace, bring forth the fruits thereof in our life and conversation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Week leading to Misericordias Domini:** April 9-15, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 23 (LW, p. 320-321)

**Hymn** - #145 "I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives"

**Daily Readings** –

9 Monday	Exodus 22:20-23:13	Luke 4:16-30
10 Tuesday	Exodus 23:14-33	Luke 4:31-44
11 Wednesday	Exodus 24:1-18	Luke 5:1-16
6:30 PM	<b>Catechesis on John 10:11-16</b>	
12 Thursday	Exodus 25:1-22 <i>Option: Exodus 25:23-30:38</i>	Luke 5:17-39
13 Friday	Exodus 31:1-18	Luke 6:1-19
14 Saturday	Exodus 32:1-14	Luke 6:20-38
15 Sunday	Exodus 32:15-35	Luke 6:39-49
10:15 AM	<b>Misericordias Domini</b> Ezekiel 34:11-16, 1 Peter 2:21-25, John 10:11-16	

**Family:** “Observe that thus far I have told you nothing of the estate of marriage except that which the world and reason in their blindness shrink from and sneer at as a mean, unhappy, troublesome mode of life. We have seen how all these shortcomings in fact comprise noble virtues and true delight if one but looks at God’s word and will, and thereby recognizes its true nature. I will not mention the other advantages and delights implicit in a marriage that goes well—that husband and wife cherish one another, become one, serve one another, and other attendant blessings—lest somebody shut me up by saying that I am speaking about something I have not experienced, and that there is more gall than honey in marriage. I base my remarks on Scripture, which to me is surer than all experience and cannot lie to me. He who finds still other good things in marriage profits all the more, and should give thanks to God. Whatever God calls good must of necessity always be good, unless men do not recognize it or perversely misuse it.

I therefore pass over the good or evil which experience offers, and confine myself to such good as Scripture and truth ascribe to marriage. It is no slight boon that in wedlock fornication and unchastity are checked and eliminated. This in itself is so great a good that it alone should be enough to induce men to marry forthwith, and for many reasons” (Luther’s Works, v.45 p.43).

**Catechism** - The Ten Commandments:

### **The Second Commandment**

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

### **Collect for Trinity Six**

Lord of all power and might, the Author and Giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Wartburg Castle was Luther’s hiding place, where he stayed after he was declared an outlaw in 1521. The Elector of Saxony, Frederick the Wise, brought Luther here to save his life. As an outlaw, he could be killed freely by anyone at any time according to German law. Frederick the Wise staged a fake attack on Luther’s life—with Luther’s consent—in order to take him to Wartburg for protective custody. He lived here for ten months under the alias Knight George—even dressing like a knight to avoid being discovered. He wore a sword, clothes of nobility and donned a fancy hairstyle and beard. (Read more: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/follow-martin-luthers-footsteps-through-germany>).

**Week leading to Trinity Six:** July 2-8, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 90 (LW, p. 335-336)

**Hymn** – #249 “Your Table I Approach”

**Daily Readings** –

2 Monday 10:30 AM	Joshua 7:1-26	Acts 10:34-48
	<b>Visitation of Our Lord</b> Zephaniah 3:14-17, Isaiah 11:1-5, Luke 1:39-56	
3 Tuesday	Joshua 8:1-28	Acts 11:1-18
4 Wednesday Independence Day No Service	Joshua 10:1-25	Acts 11:19-30
	<i>Optional Joshua 10:28-22:34</i> <b>No Catechesis on Matthew 5:17-26</b>	
5 Thursday	Joshua 23:1-16	Acts 12:1-25
6 Friday	Joshua 24:1-31	Acts 13:1-12
	<i>Optional: Judges 1:1-36</i>	
7 Saturday	Judges 2:6-23	Acts 13:13-41
8 Sunday 10:15 AM	Judges 3:7-31	Acts 13:42-52
	<b>Trinity Six</b> Exodus 20:1-17, Romans 6:1-11, St. Matthew 5:17-26	

**Family:** “Such an offense is inevitable, for we will not meet a better fate than Christ did. **If the Gospel could take its course without the rise of error, disturbance, and discord, it would have done so here with this Man Christ, who was a better preacher than the apostles.** But it happens even to Him, the Lord Christ, that as He preaches, misunderstanding, yes, dissension arises among the people. They do not know how to adjust themselves to this new doctrine. One has this to say, another that. Christ Himself confused the people with His sermons. So many factions and sects spring up. The one preaches this, the other that; and this puzzles and perplexes the people. **In the face of this you must say: ‘It is not my fault that there are so many factions. A Christian who believes and proclaims the Word of God need not worry about that. This is inevitable, and he must be resigned to the fact that it will never be any better in the world.’** Convince yourself of this, mark it as unavoidable, and submit to it. If the preaching is God’s Word, sects arise, and the same thing happens that is told here” (Luther’s Works, v. 23, p. 289-290).

**Catechism** - Table of Duties: *What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors*  
The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. 1 Cor. 9:14

Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Gal. 6:6-7

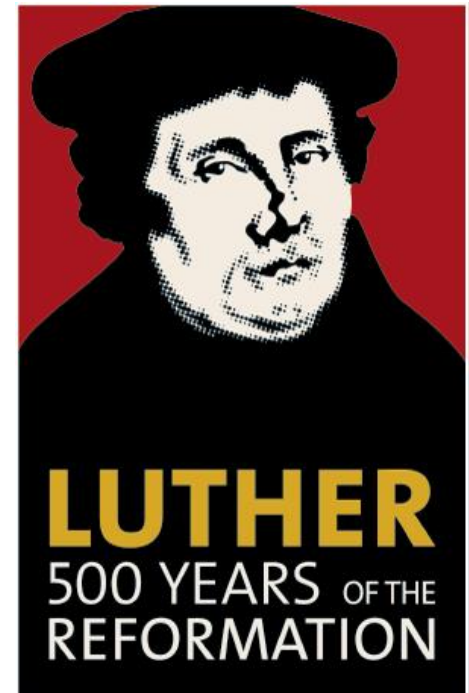
The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, “Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,” and “The worker deserves his wages.” 1 Tim. 5:17-18

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. 1 Thess. 5:12-13

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. Heb. 13:17

**Collect for Misericordias Domini**

Merciful Father, who by the humiliation of Your Son raised up the fallen world, grant to Your faithful people perpetual gladness, and make those whom You have delivered from the danger of everlasting death to be partakers of eternal joys; 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.**



**Week leading to Jubilate:** April 16-22, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 146 (LW, p. 364)

**Hymn** - #145 "I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives"

**Daily Readings** –

16 Monday	Exodus 33:1-23	Luke 7:1-17
17 Tuesday	Exodus 34:1-28	Luke 7:18-35
18 Wednesday	Exodus 34:29-35:21	Luke 7:36-50
	<i>Option Exodus 35:22-38:20</i>	
6:30 PM	<b>Catechesis on John 16:16-22</b>	
19 Thursday	Exodus 38:21-39:8, 22-23, 27-31	Luke 8:1-21
20 Friday	Exodus 39:32-40:16	Luke 8:22-39
21 Saturday	Exodus 40:17-38	Luke 8:40-56
	<i>Optional Leviticus 1:1-7:38</i>	
22 Sunday	Leviticus 8:1-13, 30-36	Luke 9:1-17
	<b>Jubilate</b> Isaiah 40:25-31, 1 Peter 2:11-20, John 16:16-22	

**Family:** “The first reason is that fornication destroys not only the soul but also body, property, honor, and family as well. For we see how a licentious and wicked life not only brings great disgrace but is also a spendthrift life, more costly than wedlock, and that illicit partners necessarily occasion greater suffering for one another than do married folk. Beyond that it consumes the body, corrupts flesh and blood, nature, and physical constitution. Through such a variety of evil consequences God takes a rigid position, as though he would actually drive people away from fornication and into marriage. However, few are thereby convinced or converted.

Some, however, have given the matter thought and so learned from their own experience that they have coined an excellent proverb, “Early to rise and early to wed; that should no one ever regret.” Why? Well because from that there come people who retain a sound body, a good conscience, property, and honor and family, all of which are so ruined and dissipated by fornication, that, once lost, it is well-nigh impossible to regain them—scarcely one in a hundred succeeds. This was the benefit cited by Paul in I Corinthians 7[:2], “To avoid immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband” (Luther’s Works, v.45 p.43-44).

**Catechism** - The Ten Commandments:

*As the Head of the Family Should Teach Them in a Simple Way to His Household*

**The First Commandment**

You shall have no other gods. *What does this mean?* We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

**Collect for Trinity Five**

O God, who has prepared for those that love You such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love toward You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



On October 31, 1517, Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Schlosskirche in Wittenberg. The original doors are sadly no longer there—they burned in 1760 along with a large part of the church—but the theses are inscribed on the 1858 bronze doors that replaced the wooden ones. Luther is buried here as well, with a simple marker above his coffin. The plaque, roughly translated from Latin, says, “Here lies the body of Martin Luther, Doctor of Divinity, who died at Eisleben, his birthplace, on the 12th of the Calends of March, in the year 1546, when he had lived 63 years, 3 months and 10 days.” There’s also a tribute to Luther at the top of the round tower, if you climb the 289 steps to get there. (Read more: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/follow-martin-luthers-footsteps-through-germany>).

**Week leading to Trinity Five:** June 25-July 1, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 147 (LW, p. 364-365)

**Hymn** – #249 “Your Table I Approach”

**Daily Readings** –

25 Monday No service	Proverbs 31:10-31	John 21:1-25
	<b>Eldona Youth Camp and Synod (Malone, Texas)</b>	
26 Tuesday	<b>Presentation of the Augsburg Confession</b>	
	Isaiah 55:6-11, Romans 10:5-17, John 15:1-11	
27 Wednesday No Service	Joshua 1:1-18	Acts 8:1-25
	Joshua 2:1-24	Acts 8:26-40
28 Thursday	<b>No Catechesis</b>	
	Joshua 3:1-17	Acts 9:1-22
29 Friday	Joshua 4:1-24	Acts 9:23-43
	<b>SS. Peter &amp; Paul, Apostles</b>	
30 Saturday	Ezekiel 34:7-16, Acts 12:1-11, Matthew 16:13-20	
	Joshua 5:1-6:5	Acts 10:1-17
1 Sunday 10:15 AM	Joshua 6:6-27	Acts 10:18-33
	<b>Trinity Five</b>	
	1 Kings 19:11-21, 1Corinthians 1:18-25, Luke 5:1-11	

**Family:** “Therefore it is dangerous and suspicious for them boastfully to appropriate the name of the Christian Church, as if this required great skill and everyone before them were ignorant. You must tell them: **“If you want to be the church and bear its name, you must prove your title. You must teach correctly, as the holy Christian Church teaches. You must have your life conform to its life. You must manifest your faith and the fruits of faith. Give evidence that you are the Christian Church.”** But since they do not administer the episcopal office as it should be administered but persecute whom they will and yet insist on being regarded as pious princes and the Christian Church, we are obliged to say that **they are the devil’s church; for the Christian Church does not treat doctrine so wantonly.** The heretics frighten and delude many people with their claim to the name “church.” That is what the people in the Gospel did when they said that Christ must come from Bethlehem and when they spurned Him because He had come from Galilee” (Luther’s Works, v. 23, p. 289).

**Catechism** - Table of Duties: *Of Civil Government*

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. For he is God’s servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God’s servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Rom. 13:1–4

**Collect for Jubilate**

Almighty and everlasting God, the heavenly Father who shows the light of truth to those who are in error so that they may return into the way of righteousness, cause all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ’s Church to avoid those things that are contrary to their profession and to follow all such things that are agreeable thereto; 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.**



Martin Luther's Birth House is a museum in Eisleben, Germany. The actual house in which Luther was born no longer exists. It was burnt completely to the ground in 1689.

**Week leading to Cantate:** April 23-29, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 66 (LW, p. 320-321)

**Hymn** - #145 "I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives"

**Daily Readings** –

23 Monday	Leviticus 9:1-24	Luke 9:18-36
24 Tuesday	Leviticus 10:1-20 <i>Option Leviticus 11:1-15:33</i>	Luke 9:37-62
25 Wednesday	Leviticus 16:1-24	Luke 10:1-22
10:30 AM	<b>St. Mark, Evangelist</b> Isaiah 55:1-5, Eph 4:7-16, Luke 10:1-9	
6:30 PM	<b>Catechesis on John 16:5-15</b>	
26 Thursday	Leviticus 17:1-16	Luke 10:23-42
27 Friday	Leviticus 18:1-7, 20-19:8	Luke 11:1-13
28 Saturday	Leviticus 19:9-18, 26-37	Luke 11:14-36
29 Sunday	Leviticus 20:1-16, 22-27	Luke 11:37-54
10:15 AM	<b>Cantate</b> Isaiah 12:1-6, James 1:16-21, John 16:5-15	

**Family:** “The estate of marriage, however, redounds to the benefit not alone of the body, property, honor, and soul of an individual, but also to the benefit of whole cities and countries, in that they remain exempt from the plagues imposed by God. We know only too well that the most terrible plagues have befallen lands and people because of fornication. This was the sin cited as the reason why the world was drowned in the Deluge, Genesis 6[1–13], and Sodom and Gomorrah were buried in flames, Genesis 19[1–24]. Scripture also cites many other plagues, even in the case of holy men such as David [II Samuel 11–12], Solomon [I Kings 11:1–13], and Samson [Judg. 16:1–21]. We see before our very eyes that God even now sends more new plagues.” (Luther’s Works, v.45, p.44).

**Catechism** - Table of Duties:

Of Citizens

Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s. Matt.

22:21

and I know the term ‘Christian Church’ very well. But it is news to me that you are that church. You may indeed vaunt that you are the Christian Church, but **that beautiful name by itself** will not mislead me. I know that the heretics are to deck themselves with the fine name of God, of Christ, and of the Christian Church, and thus deceive the world” (Luther’s Works, v. 23, p. 288).

**Catechism** - Daily Prayers: How the Head of the Family Should Teach His Household to Ask a Blessing and Return Thanks

Asking a Blessing

*The children and members of the household shall go to the table reverently, fold their hands, and say:*

The eyes of all look to You, [O Lord,] and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. [Ps. 145:15–16]

*Then shall be said the Lord’s Prayer and the following:*

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Returning Thanks

*Also, after eating, they shall, in like manner, reverently and with folded hands say:*

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever. [He] gives food to every creature. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the Lord delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love. [Ps. 136:1, 25; 147:9–11]

*Then shall be said the Lord’s Prayer and the following:*

We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

**Collect for Trinity Four**

Grant, O Lord, we implore You, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by Your governance, that Your Church may joyfully serve You in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



**Week leading to Trinity Four:** June 18-24, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 138 (LW, p. 360-361)

**Hymn** – #249 “Your Table I Approach”

**Daily Readings** –

18 Monday	Proverbs 20:5-25 <i>Optional: Prov. 21:1-31</i>	John 17:1-26
19 Tuesday	Proverbs 22:1-21	John 18:1-14
20 Wednesday	Proverbs 22:22-23:12	John 18:15-40
6:30 PM	<b>Catechesis on Luke 6:36-42</b>	
21 Thursday	Proverbs 24:1-22	John 19:1-22
22 Friday	Proverbs 25:1-22 <i>Optional: Prov 26:1-28</i>	John 19:23-42
23 Saturday	Proverbs 27:1-24 <i>Optional: Prov. 28:1-29:27</i>	John 20:1-18
24 Sunday	Proverbs 30:1-9, 18-33	John 20:19-31
	<b>Nativity of St. John the Baptist</b> Malachi 3:1-4, Isaiah 40:1-5, Luke 1:57-80	
10:15 AM	<b>Trinity Four</b> Genesis 50:15-21, Romans 12:14-21 Luke 6:36-42	

**Family:** “Therefore since this argument is waxing warm in our day, you must be prepared to give this account and reply: **the term “Christian Church” has a double meaning**, as other words do too. For there is a true and there is a false church. Now show me the true church. The pope claims to be the true church, but how is he going to prove it? He has the Gospel and Baptism; so do we. The issue is: **Who has the true Gospel and Baptism, and who the false? The one Christ is the true one, but all heretics fashion a new Christ.** Words have double meanings. Every heretic assigns a special meaning to a word, and he also employs the terms used in the divine Word. The term “god,” for example, is given the most manifold meanings. I suppose there are a thousand different gods.

Mammon is a god. So are the Order of St. Francis and the Carthusian Order. Everybody has his own peculiar god. Therefore you must be wary. **Just as the word ‘god’ really pertains only to the one God but is perverted and applied so variously, thus “Christian Church” is also misused and loosely used.** You must pay no attention to them when they say: “Here is the church.” Your answer must be: ‘I am well aware that there is one Christian Church,

It is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Rom. 13:5–7

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior. 1 Tim. 2:1–3

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good. Titus 3:1

Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. 1 Peter 2:13–14

**Collect for Cantate**

Our merciful Father, the God who alone make minds of the faithful to be of one will, cause Your people to love what You command and to desire what You promise, that among the manifold changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**



The Luther Statue in Eisleben

**Week leading to Rogate:** April 30 - May 6, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 67 (LW, p. 331)

**Hymn** - #171 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

**Daily Readings** –

30 Monday	Leviticus 21:1-24	Luke 12:1-12
1 Tuesday 10:30 AM	Leviticus 23:1-22	Luke 12:13-34
	<b>St. Philip and St. James, Apostles</b> Malachi 3:16-18, Eph 2:19-22, Jn 14:1-14	
2 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Leviticus 23:23-44	Luke 12:35-53
	<b>Catechesis on John 16:23-33</b>	
3 Thursday	Leviticus 24:1-23 <i>Optional: Leviticus 25:1-55</i>	Luke 12:54-13:17
4 Friday	Leviticus 26:1-20	Luke 13:18-35
5 Saturday	Leviticus 26:21-33, 39-44 <i>Optional: Numbers 1:1-2:34</i>	Luke 14:1-24
6 Sunday 10:15 AM	Numbers 3:1-16, 39-48 <i>Optional: Numbers 4:1-8:4</i>	Luke 14:25-15:10
	<b>Rogate</b> Numbers 21:4-9, 1 Timothy 2:1-6, St. John 16:23-33	

**Family:** “Many think they can evade marriage by having their fling [auss bubenn] for a time, and then becoming righteous. My dear fellow, if one in a thousand succeeds in this, that would be doing very well. He who intends to lead a chaste life had better begin early, and attain it not with but without fornication, either by the grace of God or through marriage. We see only too well how they make out every day. It might well be called plunging into immorality rather than growing to maturity. It is the devil who has brought this about, and coined such damnable sayings as, “One has to play the fool at least once”; or, “He who does it not in his youth does it in his old age”; or, “A young saint, an old devil.” Such are the sentiments of the poet Terence and other pagans. This is heathenish; they speak like heathens, yea, like devils.

It is certainly a fact that he who refuses to marry must fall into immorality. How could it be otherwise, since God has created man and woman to produce seed and to multiply? Why should one not forestall immorality by means of marriage? For if special grace does not exempt a person, his nature must and will compel him to produce seed and to multiply. If this does not occur within marriage, how else can it occur except in fornication or secret sins? But, they say,

**Catechism** - Daily Prayers: How the Head of the Family Should Teach His Household to Pray Morning and Evening

Morning Prayer

*In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross and say: In the name of the Father and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Then, kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer. If you choose, you may also say this little prayer:*

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

*Then go joyfully to your work, singing a hymn, like that of the Ten Commandments, or whatever your devotion may suggest.*

Evening Prayer

*In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross and say: In the name of the Father and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Then kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer. If you choose, you may also say this little prayer:*

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

*Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.*

**Collect for Trinity Three**

O God, the Protector of all that trust in You, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us Your mercy that, You being our Ruler and Guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Week leading to Trinity Three:** June 11-17, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 103 (LW, p. 339-340)

**Hymn** – #249 “Your Table I Approach”

**Daily Readings** –

11 Monday 10:30 AM	Proverbs 9:1-18	John 13:21-38
	<b>St. Barnabas, Apostle</b> Isaiah 60:1-5, Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3, Mark 6:7-13	
12 Tuesday	Proverbs 10:1-23	John 14:1-17
	<i>Option: Proverbs 11:1-12:28</i>	
13 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Proverbs 13:1-25	John 14:18-31
	<b>Catechesis on Luke 15:1-10</b>	
14 Thursday	Proverbs 14:1-27	John 15:1-11
15 Friday	Proverbs 15:1-29	John 15:12-27
16 Saturday	Proverbs 16:1-24	John 16:1-16
17 Sunday 10:15 AM	Proverbs 17:1-28	John 16:17-33
	<i>Option: Proverbs 18:1-20:4</i> <b>Trinity Three</b> Micah 7:18-20, 1Timothy 1:12-17, Luke 15:1-10	

**Family:** “But when they counter: “Your stand is not correct,” the controversy is under way. To settle this requires a spiritual council, which will proclaim the same faith that my brother and I share with all Christians, wherever they may be. They are all of one mind. **The Christian Church is the church which believes in Christ and desires to be saved by Him, not by works or merits.** Whatever the Holy Spirit says to us He says to all Christians everywhere. That is the Bethlehem and the tribe of Judah from which Christ comes. Thus it is also true that there is neither prophet nor Christian nor teacher nor preacher outside the church; for it is one body and soul, bound together and related as the members are to the body, for they are members of the body. An amputated fist is dead, lifeless, no longer attached to the body. **Similarly, a heretic is detached from the Christian Church by false doctrine and unbelief, and is dead; for those outside the Christian Church are dead....** The church believes as I believe, and I believe as the church believes. There is no difference or disparity in our belief. We all believe one Christian Church. Outside this church there is nothing. This is my faith, and this gives rise to altercation” (Luther’s Works, v. 23, p. 287-288).

suppose I am neither married nor immoral, and force myself to remain continent? Do you not hear that restraint is impossible without the special grace? For God’s word does not admit of restraint; neither does it lie when it says, “Be fruitful and multiply” [Gen. 1:28]. You can neither escape nor restrain yourself from being fruitful and multiplying; it is God’s ordinance and takes its course” (Luther’s Works, v.45 p.44-45).

**Catechism** - Table of Duties:

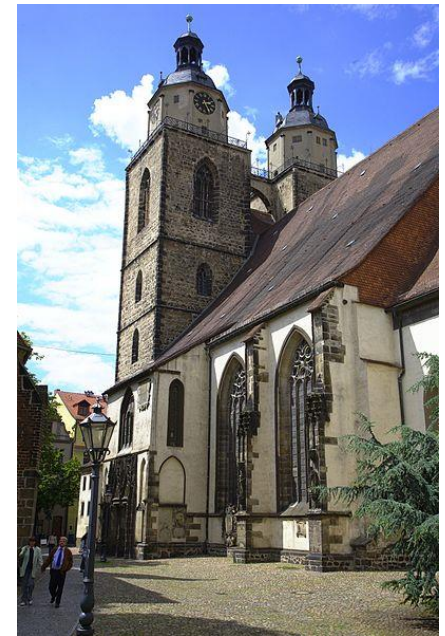
To Husbands

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. 1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. Col. 3:19

**Collect for Rogate**

O God our Father, from whom all good things do come, grant to us, Your humble servants, that by Your holy inspiration we may think those things that be right and by Your merciful guiding may perform them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



The St. Mary’s Town and Parish Church is the oldest building in Wittenberg. Not only is this the location where Luther preached, the church also contains important relics by the Cranachs highlighting the young Reformation movement. As well as contemporaries and colleagues, the Cranach and Luther families themselves were close.

**Week leading to Exaudi:** May 7 - 13, 2018

**Psalm** - May 7-9 Psalm 47 or 110 (LW p. 344)

May 10-12 Psalm 27(LW p. 322-323)

**Hymn** - #171 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

**Daily Readings** –

7 Monday 7:00 AM	Numbers 8:5-26	Luke 15:11-32
	<b>Rogation Monday</b> John 10:1-5, Amos 9:8-15	
8 Tuesday 7:00 AM	Numbers 9:1-23	Luke 16:1-18
	<b>Rogation Tuesday</b> John 10:6-10, Isaiah 4:2-6	
9 Wednesday 7:00 AM 6:30 AM	Numbers 10:11-36	Luke 16:19-31
	Matins on <b>Rogation Wed.</b> Mt 28:16-20, Is 29:18-24	
	<b>Catechesis on John 15:26-16:4</b>	
10 Thursday 7:00 PM	Numbers 11:1-23, 31-35	Luke 17:1-19
	<b>Ascension Day</b> 2Kings 2:5-15, Acts 1:1-11, Mark 16:14-20	
11 Friday	Numbers 11:24-29; 12:1-16	Luke 17:20-37
12 Saturday	Numbers 13:1-3, 17-33	Luke 18:1-17
13 Sunday 10:15 AM	Numbers 14:1-25	Luke 18:18-34
	<b>Exaudi</b> Ezekiel 36:22-28, 1 Peter 4:7-14, John 15:26-16:4	

**Family:** But the greatest good in married life, that which makes all suffering and labor worth while, is that God grants offspring and commands that they be brought up to worship and serve him. In all the world this is the noblest and most precious work, because to God there can be nothing dearer than the salvation of souls. Now since we are all duty bound to suffer death, if need be, that we might bring a single soul to God, you can see how rich the estate of marriage is in good works. God has entrusted to its bosom souls begotten of its own body, on whom it can lavish all manner of Christian works. Most certainly father and mother are apostles, bishops, and priests to their children, for it is they who make them acquainted with the gospel. In short, there is no greater or nobler authority on earth than that of parents over their children, for this authority is both spiritual and temporal. Whoever teaches the gospel to another is truly his apostle and bishop. Mitre and staff and great estates indeed produce idols, but teaching the gospel produces apostles and bishops. See therefore how good and great is God’s work and ordinance!” (Luther’s Works, v. 45, p.46).

**Catechism** - Table of Duties:

To Youth Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. 1 Peter 5:5–6

To Widows The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. 1 Tim. 5:5–6

To Everyone The commandments ... are summed up in this one rule: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Rom. 13:9  
I urge ... that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone. 1 Tim. 2:1

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

**Collect for Trinity Two**

O Lord, who never fails to help and govern those whom You bring up in Your steadfast fear and love, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Augustinerkloster, Erfurt – In 1505, Luther was terrified for his life and shouted up into the severe thunderstorm he thought would kill him these words: “Saint Anna, help me! I will become a monk.” Today, that spot in the Stotternheim district of Erfurt is marked with a commemorative stone, for it was after that declaration that Luther—who had weathered the storm alive—headed to this monastery, began his studies to become a monk, and took his vows the following year. He was ordained here in 1507. Today, the monastery is still a working Lutheran church, but with some extra amenities: a historical library, lodging for visitors, a café and a conference center. Read more:  
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/follow-martin-luthers-footsteps-through-germany>

**Week leading to Trinity Two:** June 4-10, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 100 (LW, p.339)

**Hymn** – #249 “Your Table I Approach”

**Daily Readings** –

4 Monday	Ecclesiastes 12:1-14	John 11:1-16
5 Tuesday	Proverbs 1:8-33	John 11:17-37
6 Wednesday	Proverbs 3:5-24	John 11:38-57
	<b>No Catechesis on Luke 14:15-24</b>	
7 Thursday	Proverbs 4:1-27	John 12:1-19
8 Friday	Proverbs 5:1-23 <i>Optional: Prov. 6:1-7:27</i>	John 12:20-36a
9 Saturday	Proverbs 8:1-21	John 12:36b-50
10 Sunday 10:15 AM	Proverbs 8:22-36	John 13:1-20
	<b>Trinity Two</b> Proverbs 9:1-10, Eph 2:13-22, Luke 14:15-24	

**Family:** “People say that they will wait until the Christian Church has decided the issue. Let the devil wait for that; I will not. For the Christian Church has already determined everything. The members of the body are united and need not wait until the body’s filth says or decrees whether or not the body is sound. This can be ascertained from the body’s members, but not from its urine, excrement, or filth. Thus we, too, do not want to wait until pope and bishops sit in council and decide that this or that is true. They are not part of the body; they are not good and sound members. They are Junker Filth, the snot on the sleeve and dung itself; for they persecute the true Gospel, which they know to be God’s Word. It is evident from this that they are filth, stench, and the devil’s own members.

Consequently, we must declare: **The Christian Church has already decided the issue, for this is the universal doctrine, believed by all baptized Christians.** Such a decision does not emanate from an external assembly. It springs from a spiritual council and does not require a convention. It is permissible to convoke a council to regulate fasting and prayer, vestments, the confirmation and confession of the true articles of the Creed, or other issues, as was done at the Council of Nicea. **But no council can decide the truth of Christian doctrine. No, there I simply say: ‘This is my stand on Baptism. I believe that the Gospel is true and holy. This is my stand on the Lord’s Supper’**” (Luther’s Works, v. 23, p. 287).

**Collect for Exaudi**

Almighty, everlasting God, cause us always to have a devout will toward You and to serve Your majesty with a pure heart; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Catechism.**—Table of Duties

To Wives

Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. Eph. 5:22

[This is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful,] They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. 1 Peter 3:5–6

**Family:** “Here I will let the matter rest and leave to others the task of searching out further benefits and advantages of the estate of marriage. My purpose was only to enumerate those which a Christian can have for conducting his married life in a Christian way, so that, as Solomon says, he may find his wife in the sight of God and obtain favor from the Lord [Prov. 18:22]. In saying this I do not wish to disparage virginity, or entice anyone away from virginity into marriage. Let each one act as he is able, and as he feels it has been given to him by God. I simply wanted to check those scandalmongers who place marriage so far beneath virginity that they dare to say: Even if the children should become holy [I Cor. 7:14], celibacy would still be better. One should not regard any estate as better in the sight of God than the estate of marriage. In a worldly sense celibacy is probably better, since it has fewer cares and anxieties. This is true, however, not for its own sake but in order that the celibate may better be able to preach and care for God’s word, as St. Paul says in I Corinthians 7[:32–34]. It is God’s word and the preaching which make celibacy—such as that of Christ and of Paul—better than the estate of marriage. In itself, however, the celibate life is far inferior” (Luther’s Works, v. 45, p. 46-47).

**Collect for Ascension** (use May 7-10; use collect for **Exaudi** May 11-13, below)

Grant, we implore You, almighty God, that just as we believe Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to have ascended into the heavens, so may we also in heart and mind to heaven ascend, and continually dwell with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Week leading to Pentecost:** May 14 – 20, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 104(Not in LW)

**Hymn** - #171 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

**Daily Readings** –

14 Monday	Numbers 14:26-45 <i>Optional: Numbers 15:1-41</i>	Luke 18:35-19:10
15 Tuesday	Numbers 16:1-22	Luke 19:11-28
16 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Numbers 16:23-40 <b>Catechesis on John 14:23-31</b>	Luke 19:29-48
17 Thursday	Numbers 16:41-17:13 <i>Option: Numbers 18:1-19:22</i>	Luke 20:1-18
18 Friday	Numbers 20:1-21	Luke 20:19-44
19 Saturday 7:00 PM	Numbers 20:22-21:9 <b>Pentecost Eve</b> Acts 19:1-8, John 14:15-21	Luke 20:45-21:19
20 Sunday 10:15 AM	Numbers 21:10-35 <b>Pentecost</b> Genesis 11:1-9, Acts 2:1-21, John 14: 23-31	Luke 21:20-38

**Family:** “Finally, we have before us one big, strong objection to answer. Yes, they say, it would be a fine thing to be married, but how will I support myself? I have nothing; take a wife and live on that, etc. Undoubtedly, this is the greatest obstacle to marriage; it is this above all which prevents and breaks up marriage and is the chief excuse for fornication. What shall I say to this objection? It shows lack of faith and doubt of God’s goodness and truth. It is therefore no wonder that where faith is lacking, nothing but fornication and all manner of misfortune follow. They are lacking in this, that they want to be sure first of their material resources, where they are to get their food, drink, and clothing [Matt. 6:31]. Yes, they want to pull their

Catechism - Table of Duties:

To Workers of All Kinds

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free. Eph. 6:5–8

To Employers and Supervisors

Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with Him. Eph. 6:9

**Collect for Trinity One**

O God, the Strength of all those who put their trust in You, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing, grant us the help of Your grace that in keeping Your commandments we may please You both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Augustinerkloster, Erfurt (see next page)

**Week leading to Trinity One:** May 28-June 3, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 62 (LW, p.330)

**Hymn** - #171 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

**Daily Readings** –

28 Monday <i>Memorial Day</i>	Ecclesiastes 5:1-20	John 8:1-20
<b>Eldona Synod 2018 - May 30-June 2</b>		
29 Tuesday	Ecclesiastes 6:1-7:10	John 8:21-38
30 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Ecclesiastes 7:11-29	John 8:39-59
<b>Catechesis on Luke 16:19-31</b>		
31 Thursday	Ecclesiastes 8:1-17	John 9:1-23
1 Friday	Ecclesiastes 9:1-17	John 9:24-41
2 Saturday	Ecclesiastes 10:1-20	John 10:1-21
3 Sunday 10:15 AM	Ecclesiastes 11:1-10	John 10:22-42
<b>Trinity One</b> Genesis 15:1-6, 1 John 4:16-21, Luke 16:19-31		

**Family:** “To sum the matter up: whoever finds himself unsuited to the celibate life should see to it right away that he has something to do and to work at; then let him strike out in God’s name and get married. A young man should marry at the age of twenty at the latest, a young woman at fifteen to eighteen; that’s when they are still in good health and best suited for marriage. Let God worry about how they and their children are to be fed. God makes children; he will surely also feed them. Should he fail to exalt you and them here on earth, then take satisfaction in the fact that he has granted you a Christian marriage, and know that he will exalt you there; and be thankful to him for his gifts and favors.

With all this extolling of married life, however, I have not meant to ascribe to nature a condition of sinlessness. On the contrary, I say that flesh and blood, corrupted through Adam, is conceived and born in sin, as Psalm 51[:5] says. Intercourse is never without sin; but God excuses it by his grace because the estate of marriage is his work, and he preserves in and through the sin all that good which he has implanted and blessed in marriage” (Luther’s Works, v. 45, p. 48).

head out of the noose of Genesis 3[:19], “In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread.” They want to be lazy, greedy rascals who do not need to work. Therefore, they will get married only if they can get wives who are rich, beautiful, pious, kind—indeed, wait, we’ll have a picture of them drawn for you” (Luther’s Works, v. 45, p. 47).

**Catechism** - Table of Duties:

To Parents

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Eph. 6:4

**Collect for Pentecost**

O God our merciful Father, who taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending to them the light of Your Holy Spirit, bring us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy comfort; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever. **Amen**



Luther’s Parent’s Home.--Martin Luther spent his childhood and early youth in Mansfeld-Lutherstadt, having moved with his parents from Lutherstadt Eisleben to Lutherstadt Mansfeld in 1484. Eventually, his parents were able to save enough money to buy their own house, which is now a museum. Until the age of 13, Martin Luther was a student at Mansfeld's Latin School.

**Week leading to Trinity Sunday:** May 21-27, 2018

**Psalm** - Psalm 148 (LW, p.365) or 8 (LW, p.315)

**Hymn** - #171 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

**Daily Readings** –

21 Monday 10:30 AM	Numbers 22:1-20	Luke 22:1-23
	<b>Pentecost Monday</b> Isaiah 57:15-21, Acts 10:42-48, John 3:16-21	
22 Tuesday 10:30 AM	Numbers 22:21-23:3	Luke 22:24-46
	<b>Pentecost Tuesday</b> Isaiah 32:14-20, Acts 8:14-17, John 10:1-10	
23 Wednesday 7:00 AM  6:30 PM	Numbers 23:4-28	Luke 22:47-71
	<b>Ember Wednesday</b> Acts 2:14-21, Acts 5:12-16, John 6:44-52	
	<b>Catechesis on John 3:1-17</b>	
24 Thursday	Numbers 24:1-25	Luke 23:1-25
25 Friday 7:00 AM	Numbers 27:12-23	Luke 23:26-56
	<b>Ember Friday</b> Joel 2:23-27, Luke 5:17-26	
26 Saturday 7:00 AM	Numbers 23:1-6, 16-27	Luke 24:1-27
	<b>Ember Saturday</b> Romans 5:1-5, Luke 4:38-44	
27 Sunday  10:15 AM	Numbers 35:9-30	Luke 24:28-53 <i>Optional: Acts 1:1-7:60</i>
	<b>The Holy Trinity</b> Isaiah 6:1-7, Romans 11:33-36, John 3:1-17	

**Family:** “Let such heathen go their way; we will not argue with them. If they should be lucky enough to obtain such wives the marriages would still be un-Christian and without faith. They trust in God as long as they know that they do not need him, and that they are well supplied. He who would enter into wedlock as a Christian must not be ashamed of being poor and despised, and doing insignificant work. He should take satisfaction in this: first, that his status and occupation are pleasing to God; second, that God will most certainly provide for him if only he does his job to the best of his ability, and that, if he cannot be a squire or a prince, he is a manservant or a maidservant.

God has promised in Matthew 6[:25, 33], “Do not be anxious about what you shall eat, drink, and put on; seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.” Again Psalm 37[:25] says, “I have been young and now am

old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, or his children begging bread.” H a man does not believe this, is it any wonder that he suffers hunger, thirst, and cold, and begs for bread? Look at Jacob, the holy patriarch, who in Syria had nothing and simply tended sheep; he received such possessions that he supported four wives with a large number of servants and children, and yet he had enough. Abraham, Isaac, and Lot also became rich, as did many other holy men in the Old Testament.

Indeed, God has shown sufficiently in the first chapter of Genesis how he provides for us. He first created and prepared all things in heaven and on earth, together with the beasts and all growing things, before he created man. Thereby he demonstrated how he has laid up for us at all times a sufficient store of food and clothing, even before we ask him for it. All we need to do is to work and avoid idleness; then we shall certainly be fed and clothed. But a pitiful unbelief refuses to admit this. The unbeliever sees, comprehends, and feels all the same that even if he worries himself to death over it, he can neither produce nor maintain a single grain of wheat in the field. He knows too that even though all his storehouses were full to overflowing, he could not make use of a single morsel or thread unless God sustains him in life and health and preserves to him his possessions. Yet this has no effect upon him” (Luther’s Works, v. 45, p.47-48).

**Catechism** - Table of Duties:

To Children

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise—“that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.” Eph. 6:1–3

**Collect for The Holy Trinity**

Almighty and everlasting God, who has given to us, Your servants, grace, by the confession of a truth faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity, we implore You that You would keep us steadfast in this faith and evermore defend us from all adversities; who lives and reigns, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**