

1 **Invocation** *make the sign of the cross and say...*

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

2 **The Apostles' Creed**

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 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 .

3 **The Lord's Prayer**

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 and ever. Amen.

4 **Morning or Evening Prayer**

Morning. 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.

Evening. 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.

5 Mealtime Blessing and then afterwards Returning Thanks

Blessing before meal

“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)

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 after meal

“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)

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

6 Pray the Psalms

Easter	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	93, 150	97; 145	98, 146	99, 147:1-12	47, 147:13-21	96, 148	92, 149
Evening	136, 117	124, 115	66, 116	9, 118	68, 113	49, 138	23, 114

7 Verse of the Week: **Romans 6:9; John 10:14**

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.

8 Daily Lectionary Readings

SundayGenesis 18:22-33; 1 Peter 5:1-11; Matthew 7:15-29

MondayJeremiah 30:1-9; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 6:1-11

TuesdayJeremiah 30:10-17; Colossians 1:15-23; Luke 6:12-26

WednesdayJeremiah 30:18-22; Colossians 1:24-2:7; Luke 6:27-38

ThursdayJeremiah 31:1-14; Colossians 2:8-23; Luke 6:39-49

FridayJeremiah 31:15-22; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 7:1-17

SaturdayJeremiah 31:23-25; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 7:18-35

9

The Collect for the Week

Fourth Sunday of Easter Almighty God, merciful Father, since you have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; 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.

10

Catechism Portion for the Week

Confession: What sins should we confess? –An obvious question many will ask, “Is it necessary to have an intermediary to confess our sins to? Can’t we simply pray and confess our sins directly to Christ our Lord?” And the obvious answer, at least from a Lutheran perspective, is that we can and should confess directly to Christ. As Scripture clearly states, He alone is our mediator with God the Father (cf. 1 Timothy 2:5). But there can be great benefit in making our confession of sins to God in the hearing of a Pastor. As much as it appears that the confession is being spoken to the Pastor, it actually is being directed to God in the hearing of the Pastor! So what is the benefit? That an appointed ambassador of Christ, that is the Pastor, can speak audibly and directly the absolution to the one making the confession. This can be of obvious comfort in believing the promise that if we confess our sins God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins (cf. 1 John 1:9). Furthermore, the Pastor, as the Confessor, not only can speak the Word of Forgiveness in the stead of Christ, but he can also offer comfort and encouragement with further assurances from God’s Word.

11

Portion of the Catechism and Luther’s Explanation

What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord’s Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

12

Prayer Based on the Portion of the Catechism

Prayer based on Confession and Absolution: Lord Jesus Christ, I give You thanks that my sins are forgiven before Your Father in heaven. By the Holy Spirit, give me grace to trust in Your promises and so live in the freedom and peace that You have won for me in Your death and resurrection. Amen [from Luther's Small Catechism: with explanation; Concordia Pub, pg. 313]

13

Intercessory Prayer

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| ✝ For Jerrod Benrud (the son of Heide Fehr's cousin from injuries he sustained falling off a deck. | ✝ For Jeffrey William (Heather Roll's brother for the loss Natalie) |
| ✝ For Karla Reagle (Lee Fehr's daughter) for a healthy pregnancy and delivery. | ✝ For Fred Rick with Sciatic Stenosis |

14

Hymn of the Week and Next Sunday's Lessons

709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is: *stnz 1* The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his And he is mine forever. *stnz 2* Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul he leadeth And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth. *stnz 3* Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me, And on his shoulder gently laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me. *stnz 4* In death's dark vale I fear no ill, With thee, dear Lord, beside me, Thy rod and staff my comfort still; Thy cross before to guide me. *stnz 5* Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth!. *stnz 6* And so, through all the length of days, Thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise Within thy house forever.

For May 18, 2025, The Fifth Sunday of Easter: **Acts 11:1-18** "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."; **Psalms 148** "Praise the LORD."; **Revelation 21:1-7** "I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem."; **John 16:12-22** When the Spirit comes, He will guide you into all truth.