



✠ DAILY PRAYER ✠

First Sunday after Christmas
27 December 2020 – 2 January 2021

Hope Lutheran Church
St. Louis, Missouri

This guide is offered to assist families, individuals, and small groups in the simple forms of daily prayer included in Lutheran Service Book (pages 294-298). Use the form in LSB appropriate for the time of day and follow the weekly resources in this guide for hymns, readings, and prayers. Pray and confess out loud as much from this order as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate.

✠ ORDER FOR PRAYER

Morning	LSB, p. 295	Early Evening	LSB, p. 297
Noon	LSB, p. 296	Close of the Day	LSB, p. 298

✠ HYMN *LSB 389 – Let All Together Praise Our God*

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (from *Daily Lectionary*, LSB, pp. 299-304)

	Old Testament	New Testament
Sun.	Isaiah 51:17-52:12	Matthew 2:1-12
Mon.	Isaiah 52:13-54:10	Matthew 2:13-23
Tues.	Isaiah 55:1-13	Luke 1:1-25
Wed.	Isaiah 58:1-59:3,14-21	Luke 1:26-38
Thu.	Isaiah 60:1-22	Luke 1:39-56
Fri.	Isaiah 61:1-11	Luke 1:57-80
Sat.	Isaiah 62:1-12	Luke 2:1-20

✠ APOSTLES' CREED – *LSB*, inside back cover

✠ LORD'S PRAYER – *LSB*, inside back cover

✠ PRAYERS

Collect for the First Sunday after Christmas

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen..

✠ FESTIVALS & COMMEMORATIONS

28 Dec. – The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

29 Dec. – David

31 Dec. – Eve of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus

1 Jan. – Circumcision and Name of Jesus

2 Jan. – J. K. Wilhelm Loehe, *Pastor*

✠ CONCLUDING PRAYERS – Order of Prayer in *LSB*

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BOOK OF CONCORD READING

First Sunday after Christmas

Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Article 13, paragraphs 3-5

If we define the **sacraments as rites, which have the command of God and to which the promise of grace has been added**, it is easy to determine what the sacraments are, properly speaking. For humanly instituted rites are not sacraments, properly speaking, because human beings do not have the authority to promise grace. Therefore signs instituted without the command of God are not sure signs of grace, even though they perhaps serve to teach or admonish the common folk. **Therefore, the sacraments are actually baptism, the Lord's Supper, and absolution (the sacrament of repentance)**. For these rites have the command of God and the promise of grace, which is the essence of the New Testament. For surely our hearts ought to be certain that when we are baptized, when we eat the body of the Lord, and when we are absolved, God truly forgives us on account of Christ. And God moves our hearts through the word and the rite at the same time so that they believe and receive faith just as Paul says [Rom. 10:17], "So faith comes from what is heard." For just as the Word enters through the ear in order to strike the heart, so also the rite enters through the eye in order to move the heart. The word and the rite have the same effect. Augustine put it well when he said that the sacrament is a "visible word," because the rite is received by the eyes and is, as it were, a picture of the Word, signifying the same thing as the Word. Therefore both have the same effect.

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK'S DIVINE SERVICE

Second Sunday after Christmas

3 January 2020

This “mini-Bible study” is included for your use in personal devotions or with friends during the coming week as you prepare to hear God’s Word next Sunday. The questions provided after each of the Scripture texts are intended for your thought and reflection.

OLD TESTAMENT – **Genesis 46:1-7**

1. In Genesis 37 Jacob’s favorite son, Joseph, is sold into slavery in Egypt. In Genesis 41 Joseph is freed from prison after interpreting Pharaoh’s dreams. According to Genesis 41:37-45, what position did Pharaoh give to Joseph? How old was Joseph (see Gen. 41:46)?
2. Why did Jacob’s other sons travel to Egypt? See Genesis 41:56-42:5. Note how God uses a world event (a crisis) to accomplish His will for His faithful people. What other example of this do we find in Luke 2:1-7?
3. In Genesis 46:1-7 why does God instruct Jacob to go to Egypt? See Genesis 28:13-15. What purpose does God have in taking Jacob and his family to Egypt? See Hosea 11:1 and Matthew 2:13-15.

PSALMODY – **Psalms 77:11-20**

1. In the spirit of vv. 11-12, what deeds of the Lord do we remember and what works of His do we ponder during Christmastide?
2. What wonder has God worked in sending His Son into the flesh? How does the Incarnation of Jesus, the Son of God, show that God has redeemed His people?

EPISTLE – **1 Peter 4:12-19**

1. This reading takes us from the joy of Christmas to the persecution of God’s faithful by the fallen world. How can we “rejoice insofar as [we] share Christ’s sufferings” even as we celebrate His Birth?
2. What does St. Peter teach us to do when faced with opposition and persecution because we are Christians? See 4:16, 19.

HOLY GOSPEL – **Matthew 2:13-23**

1. Why did the angel of the Lord tell Joseph to flee to Egypt with Mary and Baby Jesus? What other reason did God have for sending the Holy Family there? See Hosea 11:1.
2. When Jesus comes out of Egypt, what work of God’s salvation is He “reenacting” and fulfilling? See Exodus 12.
3. In verses 16-18, note how the coming of the Christ brings rejection by the world!
4. Where did the Holy Family finally settle and live?