

# THE FAMILY ALTAR

March 27 – April 2, A.D. 2022

## MORNING

### Luther's Morning Prayer:

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

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

### The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

#### **First:** *What is Baptism?*

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is water used by God's command and connected with God's Word.

#### *Which is that word of God?*

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

#### **Second:** *What does Baptism do for us?*

Baptism works forgiveness of sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

#### *What are these words and promises of God?*

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

#### **Third:** *How can water do such great things?*

It is certainly not the water that does such things, but God's Word which is in and with the water and faith which trusts this Word used with the water.

For without God's Word the water is just plain water and not Baptism. But with this Word it is Baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of rebirth by the Holy Spirit.

#### *Where is this written?*

Saint Paul says in Titus, chapter 3, "[God] saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that,

having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.”

**Fourth:** *What does baptizing with water mean?*

Baptism means that the Old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

*Where is this written?*

Saint Paul says in Romans, chapter 6, “We were...buried with [Christ] through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

## **EVENING**

Luther’s Evening Prayer:

**In the name of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## **DEVOTION ON THE WORD**

Scripture Readings

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>Exodus 22:7-15</b>
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>Exodus 22:16-24</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>Exodus 22:25-31</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>Exodus 23:1-9</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>Exodus 23:10-13</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>Exodus 23:14-19</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>Read “The Upcoming Sunday”</b>

The Upcoming Sunday

This coming Sunday is the fifth Sunday in Lent. In the Gospel lesson we will hear Jesus tell a parable about some vineyard workers who kill the son of the vineyard’s owner. It is a parable that speaks to his own rejection at the hands of the Jewish leaders.

By grace we are among those who have not rejected Jesus, but believe in him. Our prayer must ever be, "Lord, keep me in the faith!"

Memorization

**"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." Luke 20:17**

Hymn

LENT

**125**

**When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,



On which the Prince of glo - ry died,  
Save in the death of Christ, my God.  
Sor - row and love flow min - gled down,  
That were a trib - ute far too small;



My rich - est gain I count but loss  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
Did e'er such love and sor - row meet  
Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,



And pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
De - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.  
Tune: HAMBURG (LM) Lowell Mason, 1792–1872.