

FRIDAY — ACTIVITY

Decode the Scripture verse.

W I T H   M Y   W H O L E

H E A R T   I   S E E K   Y O U ;

L E T   M E   N O T   W A N D E R

F R O M   Y O U R

C O M M A N D M E N T S !

Psalm 119:10 ESV

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	



[www.steadfastlutherans.org/parish](http://www.steadfastlutherans.org/parish)

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# Lambs at Pasture™

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

2017

INTROIT

*Psalm 84:1-2a, 4, 10b, 11b; antiphon: Psalm 84:9-10a*

Behold our shield, O God;  
**look on the face of your anointed!**

For a day in your courts  
**is better than a thousand elsewhere.**

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!  
**My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord.**

Blessed are those who dwell in your house,  
**ever singing your praise!**

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
**than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

The LORD bestows favor and honor.

**No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.**

**Glorify 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.**

Behold our shield, O God;  
**look on the face of your anointed!**

For a day in your courts  
**is better than a thousand elsewhere.**

DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

An answer key is available for download at [www.stluth.org/lap](http://www.stluth.org/lap)

MEMORY VERSE

*Psalm 65:1*

Alleluia. Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.  
Alleluia.

**HYMN OF THE WEEK:** LSB #846 — Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old

CATECHISM CONNECTION:

The First Article of the Creed with Explanation (pages 15-16)

COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O Lord, keep Your Church with Your perpetual mercy; and because of our frailty we cannot but fall, keep us ever by Your help from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## MONDAY — THE PSALM

Read Psalm 119:9–16

What does this reading teach us?

The Lord will keep you safe through His Word and the Holy Spirit. “We should daily be engaged with God’s Word and carry it in our hearts and upon our lips.” (LC I 89)

Verse 9 — Live your life according to God’s Word.

Verse 10 — Ask for the Holy Spirit to guide us to You, and not let us stray from Your Word and Commandments.

Verse 11 — Keep God’s Word close to our hearts through our thoughts and actions.

Verse 12 — God wants to teach us through His Word, don’t turn away His blessings.

Verse 13 — Share God’s Word with others.

Verse 14 — We rejoice in God’s blessings.

Verse 15 — Spend time in God’s Word regularly and look to Him in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.

Verse 16 — Keep God’s Word active in our lives, do not stray away from Him.

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 77 (pages 96–97)

## TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Proverbs 4:10–23

What instructions do verses 13–14 give us?

Verse 13 — Cling to God’s Word, follow His Law (10 Commandments), and protect your faith in Him. The Lord is your Savior for eternal life.

Verse 14 — Live your earthly life following the Lord, and do not make lifestyle choices (unrepentant sin) that end with eternal damnation.

## WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read Luke 17:11–19

What disease did the ten men have? (verse 12) What does the disease represent?

Leprosy — Leprosy is depicted in Scripture itself as a kind of illustration of a deeper illness, namely sin. As a physical illness which harms the body from the inside out — the sores come from within, so also does sin harm us from the inside out. As Jesus said elsewhere: “From within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things [proceed] from within and defile a man.” (Mark 7:21–23 NKJV).

Something to think about: Which leprosy is worse? Leprosy of the body, or leprosy of the soul?

Why did the Samaritan return to Jesus? (verses 15–16)

The Samaritan [falls] down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. He knows whose feet those are, in spite of the fact that they looked so very ordinary.

What you ought to learn from the returning leper is: not only that there is good that can come out of evil; not only that you ought to call upon [God] in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks (SC I: 2), as he did, crying: “[Lord], have mercy”; not only that spiritual healing is better than physical healing, but also that to worship the true Incarnate God, is to look with faith, rather than merely with the eyes. All his eyes told him, was that this was a mere man, such as he himself was. But his faith informed him that this was God. All your eyes tell you, is that what you receive at the altar is a simple morsel of bread and a sip of wine. But faith informs you: these are the Body and Blood of this same Jesus.

You have the opportunity to be like the returning leper, and to return for the same reason. For you, too, have been healed by the forgiveness of sins; from spiritual—the greater—leprosy. You have been given faith. Faith, which does not follow the crowd. For faith says: “Jesus is Lord.” (Romans 10:9b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b). Faith returns to Him, regardless of whether others will come along or you must go alone. Faith sees in this Man, the eternal God. Faith says there is no other god than the Man, Christ Jesus. Faith rejoices in spiritual, as well as physical healing. Faith turns to Him and turns back to Him for all things. Faith cries out: “Jesus, Master, have mercy!”, and comes back again and cries out again. Faith ever returns. Faith, whereas once considering itself to have been unworthy of any of the gifts of God, now comes close, and [falls] down at His feet and [gives] Him thanks. Faith is the heart of the Christian life. Faith comes forward, and kneels before Him and receives Him. Faith’s joy is a joy beyond just physical things. Faith receives His Kingdom. And so, therefore, as Jesus said in reply to the returning leper, so does He say to you: “Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you {whole}.” (NKJV {KJV}).

## THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read Galatians 5:16–24

What does it mean to “walk by the Spirit”?

The Spirit leads us to Christ, and against the desires of the flesh (sin).

What are the works of the flesh? (verses 19–21)

Sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these

What are the fruits of the Spirit? (verse 22)

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 82 (pages 99–100), question 162 (pages 153–154), and question 229 (page 197)

## CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the First Article of the Creed with Explanation and Trinity XIV?

God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.