

## FRIDAY — ACTIVITY

Fill in the missing words from the following Scripture verses.

But you, O Lord, are a God \_\_\_\_\_merciful\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_gracious\_\_\_\_\_,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast \_\_\_\_\_love\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_faithfulness\_\_\_\_\_.

Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your \_\_\_\_\_strength\_\_\_\_\_ to your  
servant, and \_\_\_\_\_save\_\_\_\_\_ the son of your maidservant. — Psalm 86:15-16

It is better to take refuge in the \_\_\_\_\_LORD\_\_\_\_\_ than to trust in man.  
It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to \_\_\_\_\_trust\_\_\_\_\_  
in princes. — Psalm 118:8-9

The jar of flour was \_\_\_\_\_not\_\_\_\_\_ spent, neither did the jug of oil become  
empty, according to the \_\_\_\_\_word\_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.  
— 1 Kings 17:16

Do not be deceived: God is not \_\_\_\_\_mocked\_\_\_\_\_, for whatever one sows, that  
will he also \_\_\_\_\_reap\_\_\_\_\_. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the  
flesh reap \_\_\_\_\_corruption\_\_\_\_\_, but the one who sows to the Spirit  
will from the Spirit reap \_\_\_\_\_eternal life\_\_\_\_\_. — Galatians 6:7-8

[Jesus said] “No one can serve \_\_\_\_\_two\_\_\_\_\_ masters, for either he will \_\_\_\_\_hate\_\_\_\_\_  
the one and \_\_\_\_\_love\_\_\_\_\_ the other, or he will be \_\_\_\_\_devoted\_\_\_\_\_ to the  
one and \_\_\_\_\_despise\_\_\_\_\_ the other. You cannot serve \_\_\_\_\_God\_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_money\_\_\_\_\_. — Matthew 6:24



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

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# Lambs at Pasture™

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

2017

## INTROIT

*Psalm 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: Psalm 86:1a, 2b, 3*

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,  
**save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.**

Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
**for to you do I cry all the day.**

Gladden the soul of your servant,  
**for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.**

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;  
**listen to my plea for grace.**

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious;  
**turn to me and be gracious to me;**

give your strength to your servant,  
**and save the son of your maidservant.**

**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.**

Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me,  
**save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.**

Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
**for to you do I cry all the day.**

## DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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

## MEMORY VERSE

*Psalm 95:1*

Alleluia. Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Alleluia.

**HYMN OF THE WEEK:** LSB #732 — All Depends on Our Possessing

## CATECHISM CONNECTION:

The Fourth Petition of the Lord’s Prayer with Explanation (pages 20–21)

## COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; 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 146

What is this Psalm telling us to do? (verse 3)

We should not put our trust in man because man can not save us. We are to fear, love, and trust in God above all things; as only God can save us.

Why should we only trust in the Lord? (verses 6-7)

God is our Creator, He made all things. He richly and daily provides all that is needed. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. (SC: The First Article of the Creed)

The Lord is ever faithful, ever true, ever merciful and kind. He keeps His promises. He has said that He will work all things together for the everlasting good in all who believe in Him. (Romans 8:28).

## TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read 1 Kings 17:8-16

How did God provide for Elijah? (verses 8-9)

The Lord commanded a widow to feed him.

What do verses 13-14 mean?

“Do not fear.” (1 Kings 17:13b). God will take care of you. You may think your back is against the wall, and that there’s no hope, but really, there is nothing to fear. The bin of flour shall not be used up. (1 Kings 17:14b NKJV). For you, this means you will always have a place at the Lord’s Table, and always be able to eat bread in His Kingdom. And the jug of oil shall not be empty. (1 Kings 17:14d). This, for you, means that the Lord will never take back the anointing of your Baptism, the healing of your soul, the forgiveness, and eternal life you received when He said you were His own. And what’s more, the Lord will send rain on the earth (1 Kings 17:14e), which, for you, means that He will pour out on you His Holy Spirit — to restore your hope, to uplift your spirit, to help you look beyond the many things that trouble you, and to cause you to believe that: no matter what you’ve done, or what’s been done to you, no matter what the future may hold for you or your children or your grandchildren, the Lord will continue to take care of you, and lavish you with His love, and sustain and strengthen you. So do not fear. For, as the Apostle writes: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:31-32 NKJV). If God has taken care of all of your eternal needs in Christ, can you not also trust Him with the temporal things?

## WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read Matthew 6:24-34

What does verse 24 mean?

“No one can serve two masters.” This is most certainly true, first, because God Himself says it. God is truth. (John 14:6c). God speaks only truth. (Psalm 86:11b; 119:160a). And secondly, you know it to be true, that no one can serve two masters,

from what you have seen and experienced in your life. You can’t report to two bosses; it doesn’t work. Both will demand your best efforts and total devotion. Your heart won’t be in it, for one will receive more from you than the other, and you will be painfully torn until you become unfaithful to one and loyal to the other. Divided loyalties are only divided and not loyal at all.

So too, you cannot covet the things of the world, and love God. The daily bread that God graciously gives, gifts such as: food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like (SC. III: 4th Petition), are quickly made sinful mammon (wealth, property, earthly goods, money, etc.) by the fallen heart. And God is a jealous God (Exodus 20:5b); He desires your complete faithfulness. You cannot serve God and mammon. (NKJV)

Why did Jesus tell us not to be anxious (worry) about our lives, what we will eat or what we will drink, not about our bodies, what we will wear? (verses 25-34)

Your heavenly Father knows what you need; better than you know it yourself. The Lord provides. He feeds His children, not just with bread and meat, but most especially with His righteousness. He gives you what you truly need: the forgiveness of sins, deliverance from death and the devil, eternal life.

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 219 (pages 190-191) and question 222 (pages 192-193)

## THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read Galatians 5:25-6:10

What does it mean to “live by the Spirit” and “walk by the Spirit”? (verse 25)

Living in the Spirit is believing in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in Christ receives the Holy Spirit and is saved.

Walking by the Spirit is resisting temptations of the flesh (sin) and showing our faith through the love of our neighbor.

What does it mean to reap what we sow? (verses 7-10)

All actions have consequences. If we live according the flesh (our sinful nature), we will reap eternal damnation. If we live according to the Spirit, we will reap eternal life.

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 40 (pages 70-72), question 46 (page 73), question 179 (pages 162-164), and question 279 (pages 228-229)

## CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the Fourth Petition of the Lord’s Prayer with Explanation and Trinity XV?

The Lord God provides everything we need.