

FRIDAY — ACTIVITY

Fill in the missing words from the following Scripture verses.

He calls to the _____ heavens _____ above and to the earth, that he may _____ judge _____ his people. The heavens declare his _____ righteousness _____, for God himself is judge! — Psalm 50:4, 6

Offer to God a _____ sacrifice _____ of _____ thanksgiving _____, and perform your vows to the _____ Most High _____, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will _____ deliver _____ you, and you shall _____ glorify _____ me.” — Psalm 50:14-15

“I saw in the night _____ visions _____, and behold, with the _____ clouds _____ of heaven there came one like a _____ son of man _____, and he came to the _____ Ancient of Days _____ and was presented before him.” — Daniel 7:13

The _____ Lord _____ is not slow to fulfill his _____ promise _____ as some count slowness, but is _____ patient _____ toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach _____ repentance _____ . — 2 Peter 3:9

Then he will _____ answer _____ them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal _____ punishment _____, but the _____ righteous _____ into eternal _____ life _____.” — Matthew 25:45-46



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Lambs at Pasture™

The Second to Last Sunday of the Church Year — Trinity XXVI 2017

INTROIT

Psalm 54:3-5, 7; antiphon: Psalm 54:1-2

○ God, save me, by your name,
and vindicate me by your might.

○ God, hear my prayer;
give ear to the words of my mouth.

For strangers have risen against me;
they do not set God before themselves.

Behold, God is my helper;
The Lord is the upholder of my life.

He will return the evil to my enemies;
in your faithfulness put an end to them.

For he has delivered me from every trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

**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.**

○ God, save me, by your name,
and vindicate me by your might.

○ God, hear my prayer;
give ear to the words of my mouth.

DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

An answer key is available for download at www.stluth.org/lap

MEMORY VERSE

Isaiah 35:10a

Alleluia. The ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy. Alleluia.

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB #508 — The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

CATECHISM CONNECTION:

The Third Article of the Creed with Explanation (page 17)

COLLECT OF THE WEEK

○ Lord, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of the end of all things and the day of Your just judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You forever hereafter; 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 50:1–15

What did God instruct in verse 5?

That His faithful ones be gathered to Him and be witnesses to His judgment.

What did God charge Israel with? (verses 7–13)

They were offering sacrifices apart from faith; they were just going through the motions. The sacrificial system was never intended to be the sum and substance of their faith, but as a signpost, an act done in faith of the promise that God would provide His own offering to cover their sins. They had forgotten this, and turned inward, comforting themselves not in the promise of God, but by their own observance of the sacrificial system. Any sacrifice that is given to the glory (the building or puffing up) of oneself is not acceptable to God.

When is it appropriate to offer a sacrifice to God? (verses 14–15)

Sacrifices may be given out of gratitude (thanksgiving) and praise.

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 34 (page 67), question 203 (page 179), and question 234 (pages 200–201)

TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Daniel 7:9–14

Who is the Ancient of Days? Describe him. (verse 9)

God the Father is the Ancient of Days.

His clothing was white as snow, and His hair is white like wool. He sits on a throne that is flaming with fire.

What happened in verses 13–14?

The coming of the Son of Man (Christ Jesus) in glory. Illustrative language for the Last Day when Christ who (currently) sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, shall, from thence, come to judge the living and the dead. (Apostles' Creed).

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 100 (pages 111–112)

WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read Matthew 25:31–46

Who are the sheep and the goats? How are they separated?

The sheep are the believers. They are placed on the right and go into eternal life with God.

The goats are the unbelievers. They are placed on the left and go into everlasting punishment (or torment) in the eternal fire (hell) prepared for the devil and his angels.

Jesus commends the good works of the sheep. Does that mean they “earned the right” (works righteous) to go to heaven?

No. Works do not save the sheep. Jesus is not giving reasons why the sheep are going to heaven. For there are plenty of unbelievers who also feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, visit the sick, and visit those in prison. The difference is that the works of the sheep are cleansed and sanctified by Christ through their faith in Him, while the works of the goats are not. Christ receives good works done in faith as works done for and to Him: “Without faith (in Christ) it is impossible to please [God].” (Hebrews 11:6a NKJV)

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 149 (pages 142–145), question 189 (pages 169–170), and question 190 (pages 170–172)

THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read 2 Peter 3:3–14

What is the importance of God's spoken Word? (verses 5–7)

When God speaks, that which He says happens. God spoke creation into existence, and it happened! God speaks His word of forgiveness, and it happens! God will speak on the Last Day and what He says will happen!

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 105 (pages 114–115), question 149 (pages 142–145), and question 167 (page 156)

CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the Third Article of the Creed with Explanation and the Second to the Last Sunday of the Church Year?

“On the Last Day, He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.” (SC. II:3)