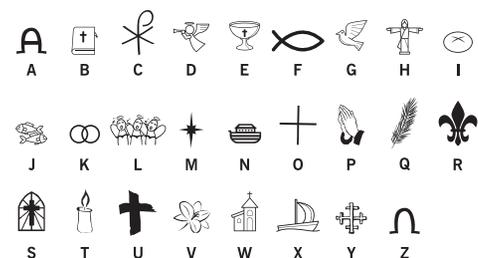


FRIDAY — ACTIVITY

Decode the Scripture verse.



A selection from the First Article of the Creed with Explanation



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

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# Lambs at Pasture™

Oculi — The Third Sunday of Lent

2017

INTROIT

*Psalm 25:1–2, 17–18, 20; antiphon: Psalm 25:15–16*

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,  
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
for I am lonely and afflicted.

To you, O LORD,  
I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame;  
let not my enemies exult over me.

The troubles of my heart are enlarged;  
bring me out of my distresses.

Consider my affliction and my trouble,  
and forgive all my sins.

Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!

Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

Glory 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.

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,  
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
for I am lonely and afflicted.

DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MEMORY VERSE

*Psalm 123:1–2*

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us.

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB #714 — Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode

CATECHISM CONNECTION: The First Article of the Creed with Explanation

COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The third Sunday in Lent is called Oculi, which means “My eyes” in Latin.

## MONDAY — THE PSALM

Read Psalm 4

Whom are we to put our trust in? (verse 5)

We are to trust in the LORD.

What does verse 8 mean?

Only God keeps us safe, His watchful eye protects us. It is through His peace that allows us rest without worry.

### Optional Reading & Discussion Questions

Psalm 136:1–13

What is this psalm telling us to do?

We are to give thanks to the LORD. God graciously provides everything (daily bread) for us out of fatherly love and goodness. His steadfast (never fading) love endures forever.

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 197 (page 176)

## TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Jeremiah 26:1–15

Why did God send Jeremiah to prophesy against the house of Judah? (verses 12–13)

God genuinely desires each of us to repent of our sin and be with Him.

“The Lord sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. Now therefore mend your ways and your deed, and obey the voice of the Lord your God, and the Lord will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you.”

### Optional Reading & Discussion Questions

Exodus 8:16–24

What was the (third) plague described in this passage? (verse 16)

Gnats covered all of Egypt after Aaron struck the dust of the earth with his staff.

Why couldn’t the magicians duplicate (copy) the third plague?

The plague was a “finger of God” (an act of God). Only God is the Creator and can bring life out of death. He is omnipotent (all-powerful), omniscient (all-knowing), and omnipresent (all-present).

Describe Pharaoh’s heart.

Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, he would not listen to God.

## WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read Luke 11:14–28

Who is Beelzebul?

The devil (a false god, ruler of the demons)

How does Jesus cast out the demons?

It is by the “finger of God” that Jesus casts out demons. He is omnipotent (all-powerful), omniscient (all-knowing), and omnipresent (all-present).

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 40 (pages 240–241) and question 298 (pages 186–187)

## THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read Ephesians 5:1–9

What are we instructed to do in verse 1?

We are to be “imitators of God, as beloved children. And, walk in love, as Christ loved us...” This means we are to love as Christ loves (forgive others and love in a sacrificial way).

What commandments are being discussed in verse 3?

The 6th Commandment: You shall not commit adultery.

The 9th Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.

The 10th Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does it mean to covet?

To covet is to sinfully desire something. People tend to covet money, other people’s belongings, etc. When you covet, you are not satisfied with the gifts God has blessed you with.

What does “walk as children of light” mean in verse 8?

Turn away from living in sin (darkness), and repent. Live in the Gospel (light), you are saved by God’s mercy.

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 21 (pages 57–59) and question 57 (pages 83–84)

## CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the First Article of the Creed with *Explanation* and *Oculi*?

Throughout these readings, we hear how God “defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.”