

FRIDAY — ACTIVITY

Fill in the missing words from the following Scripture verses.

I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my _____ rock _____ and my _____ fortress _____ and my _____ deliverer _____. — Psalm 18:1-2a

The LORD works _____ righteousness _____ and _____ justice _____ for all who are _____ oppressed _____. — Psalm 103:6

As a father shows _____ compassion _____ to his _____ children _____, so the _____ LORD _____ shows compassion to those who _____ fear _____ him.
— Psalm 103:13

_____ Humble _____ yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of _____ God _____ so that at the proper time he may _____ exalt _____ you, casting all your _____ anxieties _____ on him, because he _____ cares _____ for you. — 1 Peter 5:6-7

But I received _____ mercy _____ for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect _____ patience _____ as an example to those who were to _____ believe _____ in him for _____ eternal _____ life.
— 1 Timothy 1:16

Just so, I tell you, there is _____ joy _____ before the _____ angels _____ of God over one _____ sinner _____ who _____ repents _____. — Luke 15:10



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Lambs at Pasture™

Third Sunday after Trinity

2017

INTROIT

Psalm 25:1-2a, 5b, 15, 20; antiphon: Psalm 25:16, 18

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

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

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

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

You are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.

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

Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!

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

**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.**

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

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

DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 18:1-2a

Alleluia. I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer. Alleluia.

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB #609 — Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

CATECHISM CONNECTION: Confession with Explanation (pages 26-29)

COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, without whom nothing is strong and nothing is holy, multiply Your mercy on us that, with You as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MONDAY — THE PSALM

Read Psalm 103:1–13

Name some of the many things in this psalm that God does for us.

Verses 3–5: God forgives us of our sins (iniquities), heals diseases, and sanctifies us (makes us holy) for our eternal salvation.

Verses 6–9: God is good and just, merciful and gracious, and slow to anger while forgiving abundantly.

Verses 10–13: God doesn't punish or hold a sin against us, but instead He shows compassion and forgiveness abundantly. When God forgives a sin, He truly forgets the sin (unlike us humans).

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 34 (page 67), question 111 (page 118), question 205 (pages 180–181), question 209 (page 182), question 235 (page 201), and question 267 (pages 220–221)

TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Micah 7:18–20

Describe God's love.

God's love is steadfast (unfailing) and never-ending, unlike human love. He is compassionate.

What does God do with our iniquities (sins)?

God casts all the sins of His believers into the depths of the sea, never to return to weigh heavy on their conscience. God truly forgets the sin when He forgives, giving us peace.

“He will put our sins far away from us so that they never again trouble our conscience. He will give us peace of conscience and a very free conscience, for indeed, peace follows the forgiveness of sins—a peace where the heart feels the sweetness of divine goodness, now that its sin has been forgiven, etc.” (*Luther's Works*, vol. 18, pg. 277)

WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read Luke 15:1–10

Who are the lost sheep in this parable? What do the lost sheep represent today?

The tax collectors and sinners. They represent baptized Christians who have strayed from their faith.

What does the Parable of the Lost Sheep tell us about God the Good Shepherd?

God desires to save us, even those who wandered from the faith. “There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.” (verse 7)

Both the Parable of the Lost Sheep and the Parable of the Lost Coin talk about a sinner who repents. What does it mean to repent?

Repent means to turn away from sin, to ask for the forgiveness of sins.

The repentance of the sheep and coin are not that they went back to the flock or rolled back into the light but that they were found by the shepherd and the old woman.

True repentance is not that you do something but that you are found and rescued and saved by Jesus. True repentance is your baptism in which you are drowned and die and rise to new life with Christ. (SC. IV: 4). True repentance is the confession of your sins and the proclamation of Holy Absolution by which you are reminded that you have been found. True repentance is the feast of salvation celebrating that the Jesus, who has given His Body and Blood for you, now gives them to you to eat and drink for forgiveness, life and salvation. (SC. VI: 2). Or to put it another way, true repentance is the Spirit's work in you through the Word. (SC. II: 3).

Optional Reading & Discussion

Luke 15:11–32

“God found us when we were far from Him. We are in no position to begrudge His grace similarly given to others, no matter how unworthy they appear to us. How meagerly we celebrate Baptism and public declarations of faith! God calls us to a joyful celebration, not only of our own salvation, but also for the salvation of our brothers and sisters.” (*Lutheran Study Bible Notes*)

THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read 1 Peter 5:6–11

How can we resist the devil?

We are to cling to God's Word and stand firm in our faith.

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 100 (pages 111–112), question 110 (pages 117–118), question 216 (page 187), question 222 (pages 192–193), and question 229 (page 197)

Optional Reading & Discussion Question

1 Timothy 1:12–17

Why did Christ Jesus come into the world? (verse 15)

Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 93 (pages 105–107), question 140 (page 137), and question 235 (page 201)

CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the Confession with Explanation and Trinity III?

We are to ask for forgiveness from God of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.