



# MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



## A CONGREGATION AT PRAYER

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

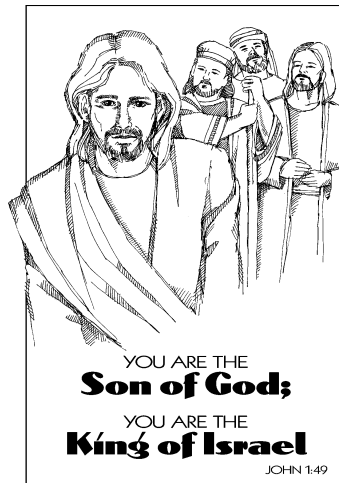
JANUARY 15, 2012—JANUARY 21, 2012

### COMMENTARY FOR THE WEEK

*The Lord God Is with You and Reveals Himself to You by the Preaching of His Word*

The Lord Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael to “*come and see*” that He is “*the Son of God*” and “*the King of Israel*” (John 1:43–49). And they shall see even “*greater things than these*” (John 1:50). For His Body is the Temple of God on earth, and by His priestly sacrifice the heavens will be opened to all who believe and are baptized into Him. Therefore, He calls Philip and Nathanael, first to hear His Word and then to speak as Apostles, even as He once called Samuel and established him “*as a prophet of the Lord*” (1 Sam. 3:20). As the Lord was with the Samuel “*and let none of his words fall to the ground*” (1 Sam. 3:19), He also accompanies and upholds the preachers of His Word in our day. Thus, by the Gospel that is

preached to you, “*your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you*” (1 Cor. 6:19). Since your body thus belongs to the Body of Christ, is meant “*for the Lord,*” and shall be raised up like Him, now “*glorify God in your body*” (1 Cor. 6:13–20).



### MEMORIZING THE CATECHISM: THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

<i>How can water do such great things?</i>	3rd +
Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God’s word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:	
He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,	K +
Whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,	1st +
So that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. Titus 3:5-8	2nd +

### A SAMPLE FAMILY DEVOTION:

#### • Invocation

*In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

#### • Verse of the Week

*Try to memorize by the end of the week.*

#### • Daily Bible Story

*Read together and talk about the story. Which character are you most like? Where is the Gospel?*

#### • Apostles’ Creed

#### • Prayers

*Pray together the collect, and have a family member pray the daily thematic prayer and the prayers of the Church for the Week*

### Reading the Psalms:

Perfect for personal morning devotions.

SUNDAY	66 67, 70
MONDAY	68 69
TUESDAY	71 72
WEDNESDAY	73 74
THURSDAY	75, 76 77
FRIDAY	78 79
SATURDAY	80 81

## VERSE OF THE WEEK

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

### Hymn of the Week:

“O Word of God Incarnate”, LSB#523

**A musician in the family can play the tune while the family sings together. Otherwise, the text is good devotional material.**

### Next Sunday's Readings:

**Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

***Jonah 3:1-5,10***

Jonah Goes to Nineveh

***1 Corinthians 7:29-31***

This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short.

***Mark 1:14-20***

Jesus Begins His Ministry and Calls His First Disciples

## **BIBLE STORIES FOR THE FAMILY AND CONGREGATION:**

**TO BE READ DURING YOUR DAILY FAMILY DEVOTIONS**

Sunday	
Monday	Noah and the Flood—Genesis 6;5,13-19; 7:11-12,17-23
Tuesday	Noah Leaves the Ark—Genesis 8:15-9:1
Wednesday	The Red Sea—Exodus 13:17-14:31
Thursday	Israel Crosses the Jordan—Joshua 1:1-2,10-11; 3:1-17
Friday	Naaman's Leprosy is Cleansed—2 Kings 5:1-14

## **DAILY PRAYER READINGS:**

**PERFECT FOR PERSONAL EVENING DEVOTIONS**

Sunday	OT: Ezekiel 37:5-28	NT: Romans 6:1-23
Monday	Ezekiel 38:1-23	Romans 7:1-20
Tuesday	Ezekiel 39:1-10,17-29	Romans 7:21-8:17
Wednesday	Ezekiel 40:1-4;43:1-12	Romans 8:18-39
Thursday	Ezekiel 44:1-16,23-29	Romans 9:1-18
Friday	Ezekiel 47:1-14,21-23	Romans 9:19-33
Saturday	Joel 1:1-20	Romans 10:1-21
Sunday	Joel 2:1-17	Romans 11:1-24

## **PRAYERS**

### **Collect for the Week:**

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **Daily Themes for Prayer:**

<b>Sunday</b>	for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of the faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.
<b>Monday</b>	for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.
<b>Tuesday</b>	for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.
<b>Wednesday</b>	for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
<b>Thursday</b>	for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.
<b>Friday</b>	for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.
<b>Saturday</b>	for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.

### **In Our Prayers @ Mt. Calvary**

**Ruth Faubion** at home from the hospital; **Kathy Theiss and Debbie Pundt** undergoing chemotherapy; **Ruby Pircher** at SAMMC; **Lee Smetzer** at home from the hospital; **Janet Lonsberry** at home from the hospital; **Karl Mittwede** at Eden Hill Rehab in new Braunfels; **Ray Pircher** on his 93rd birthday last Friday; **our troops** who are returning home after their service overseas.