

*For the week of Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 20th through August 26th, 2022*

Notes for the Week — A Tiny Morsel, Matthew 15:21-26

The story of the Canaanite woman is a short but powerful one. In it, we see the desperation, yet trust, of a mother in need. The woman has a great need: her daughter was severely oppressed by a demon. The woman knows that only Jesus can meet her need. Yet, as Jesus said, He was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel. This is not a lie. Sometimes I think we, as Gentiles, are tempted to twist these words of Jesus to make them something they are not. The truth is, even if Jesus is testing the woman's faith, His statement is nonetheless true. If we confess otherwise, we are accusing Jesus of lying. Yet Scripture is clear: Jesus is the Jewish Messiah. He came from and for this people.

However, the faith of the Canaanite woman is amazing because she knew the implications of what all Jesus being the Jewish Messiah meant. "Through your descendants all the nations will be blessed," God had promised Abraham (Genesis 22). And so she replies, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." She knew that the blessing that the Messiah would be so abundant that it would overflow from the Jewish people and out to all others. In other words, she was confident that she and her daughter would be swept up into the Kingdom of God on account of the Messiah's graciousness.

Jesus couldn't help but be amazed at her understanding and her faith. "O woman, great is your faith!" His hand was 'forced.' She knew the promises of God and she wasn't letting go until Jesus gave her the blessing she was promised. And so Jesus, delighted by her faith, gives her not just 'crumbs' but the whole feast of blessing. To confirm this, He adds, "Be it done for you as you believe." And her daughter was healed instantly.

May we be so confident in the promises of God! Especially when it seems like He is ignoring us and couldn't care less. The blessings of the Kingdom are so plentiful that they overflow and sweep you up in them. Jesus may not always confirm those blessings in the way you desire in this life, but know for certain that when the Kingdom is revealed at His final coming, you will instantly receive all you could ever hope for and more. Amen.

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate.
Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

VERSE: PSALM 147:2-3

The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

PSALM 67 and/or the appointed daily psalms.

Prayer on the Psalm

Praise and thanks be to our God for calling us of the Gentiles into the kingdom of His dear Son, and making us partakers of His grace and salvation. May He grant us grace to walk worthy of the Gospel whereby we are called, and to serve Him in joy and gladness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	80	82, 84	85, 87	88	90	92	94	97, 98
Evening	81	83	86	89	91	93	95, 96	99, 100

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

	Bible Narrative for the Week	Second Reading
Sunday	Matthew 15:21-28	
Monday	Moses Receives the Law upon Tablets of Stone—Exodus 24:1-18	
Tuesday	The Ark of the Covenant—Exodus 25:1-22	
Wednesday	The Priestly Garments—Exodus 28:1-43	
Thursday	The Ransom Money—Exodus 30:11-16 St. Bartholomew, Apostle: John 1:43-51	
Friday	* The Sabbath Law—Exodus 31:12-18	
Saturday	Isaiah 51:1-6	

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments — The First and Second Commandment

What is the First Commandment? You shall have no other gods.	Preschool+
What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.	First Grade+
What is the Second Commandment? You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.	Preschool+
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, Lie, or deceive by His name, But call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.	Second Grade+

DEVOTION OR MEDITATION

DAILY PRAYER

Select from among the following prayers as time and circumstances allow:

Collect of the Week

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** *For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacrament.*
- Monday:** *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.*
- Tuesday:** *For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.*
- Wednesday:** *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.*
- Thursday:** *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.*
- Friday:** *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.*
- Saturday:** *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 this Week

Our Congregation: Dwayne & Robyn Harris; Sheri Harris; Hershel & Margi Harris; Kris & Shannon Hassler, Nathaniel, Lucas.

Baptismal Birthdays: Aniston Smith; Molly Herrmann; Curtis Miller

Wedding Anniversaries: Bert & Renae Tegtmeier; John & Sharon Schultze; Sam & Kaylynn White

Members of the Congregation: Alan Barraza; Xander Daniel;

Friends of our Congregation: Kristena Wright

Other:

Our Circuit:

Faith Lutheran Church, Emporia; Rev. Adam Reichart

Messiah Lutheran Church, Emporia; Rev. Eddie Hosch

Our District Staff and President, Rev. Justin Panzer.

Jeffrey Maltz, LCEF

Jim Bradshaw, Education and Youth

Our Synod and President, Rev. Matthew Harrison

Our Community: USD 290; Life Care Center; Hope House

Our State and Governor, Laura Kelly

Our Nation and President, Joseph Biden

LORD'S PRAYER

MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER FROM THE CATECHISM

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

—or—

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

HYMN OF THE WEEK

“When In the Hour of Deepest Need”

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| 1 When in the hour of deepest need
We know not where to look for aid;
When days and nights of anxious
thought
No help or counsel yet have brought, | 4 And so we come, O God, today
And all our woes before You lay;
For sorely tried, cast down, we stand,
Perplexed by fears on ev’ry hand. |
| 2 Then is our comfort this alone
That we may meet before Your throne;
To You, O faithful God, we cry
For rescue in our misery. | 5 O from our sins, Lord, turn Your face;
Absolve us through Your boundless
grace.
Be with us in our anguish still;
Free us at last from ev’ry ill. |
| 3 For You have promised, Lord, to heed
Your children’s cries in time of need
Through Him whose name alone is
great,
Our Savior and our advocate. | 6 So we with all our hearts each day
To You our glad thanksgiving pay,
Then walk obedient to Your Word,
And now and ever praise You, Lord. |

Text: Paul Eber, 1511–69; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Looking Forward to “The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost”

August 27, 2023

Readings: Isaiah 51:1-6 | Romans 11:33-12:8 | Matthew 16:13-20

Jesus asked His disciples: “But who do you say that I am?” (Matt. 16:15). The question is also put to us: Who do you say that He is? Flesh and blood do not reveal this to us, but by the ministry of the Gospel, the Father in heaven reveals His Son to us on earth, who has become flesh and suffered death for our salvation. Thus, we believe and confess that He is “the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matt. 16:16). As He died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification, He looses us from all our sins and preserves our life within His Church, against which even “the gates of hell shall not prevail” (Matt. 16:18–19). His salvation is forever, and His righteousness “will never be dismayed” (Is. 51:6). He comforts us with the Gospel in His Church, so that “joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song” (Is. 51:3). Therefore, “according to the measure of faith that God has assigned” (Rom. 12:3), we also offer ourselves “as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God” (Rom. 12:1) through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

