



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

*Daily Devotion at Zion + November 2021 AD + **Pentecost Season***

Bread

“Give us this day our daily bread.”

So we pray in the Lord’s Prayer, one of the shining suns of our devotion. But what is our daily bread? The Small Catechism describes it as “all that we need from day to day,” from house and home to family and occupation. By all those blessings, God sustains our lives not only with food but also with the daily bread of the heart that calls for so much more than mere food to flourish.

And then there is the greatest bread of all: “And the bread that I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh” (John 6:51).

It’s no symbol or idea or mere word to inspire you. No, Jesus gives into your mouth His very flesh and blood, the same stuff born at Bethlehem and raised from the tomb. In so doing, He gives you exactly what He promises: eternal life, for there is no life outside of the risen flesh of Jesus. He nourishes your union with Him and your life in Him.

This November, as we increase our thanksgiving for the harvest and the blessings of this rapidly ending year, we know where that thanksgiving is most at home. At the altar of our Lord, gathered near for His body, we see in that bread all of God’s blessing, from daily food to eternal life, for truly, that bread on the altar and on your tongue is the Almighty Giver Himself.

About the Cover Art

In “Christ Child and Madonna,” artist Salvador Dali preaches as much as he paints. At the center of Jesus hangs a framed image of bread, teaching us who He really is and where we shall find Him. Yet He, in turn, sits framed at the center of Mary, teaching us the truth about her, too: we know Mary best when we know her Son, and we know her Son best in the breaking of the bread. Note how Jesus’ hair is the same color as the crust, further identifying Him with the bread, and how in one hand He holds the Scriptures, and in the other He holds—what? Is it a little toy ball, or is it the whole earth?

Daily Readings for the Week of Pentecost 23 (October 31)

S Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14
Acts 16:6-15
Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

M Jeremiah 44:1-14
1 Corinthians 15:30-41
Matthew 11:16-24

T Lamentations 1:1-12
1 Corinthians 15:41-50
Matthew 11: 25-30

W Lamentations 2:8-15
1 Corinthians 15:51-58
Matthew 12:1-14

Th Ezra 1:1-11
1 Corinthians 16:1-9
Matthew 12:15-21

F Ezra 3:1-13
1 Corinthians 16:10-24
Matthew 12:22-32

Sa Ezra 4:7, 11-24
Philemon 1-25
Matthew 12:33-42

These readings correspond to pages 1049– 1083 in Volume II of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Pentecost 24 (November 7)

S Haggai 1:1—2:9
Acts 18:24—19:7
Luke 10:25-37

M Zechariah 1:7-17
Revelation 1:4-20
Matthew 12:43-50

T Ezra 5:1-17
Revelation 4:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9

W Ezra 6:1-22
Revelation 5:1-10
Matthew 13:10-17

Th Nehemiah 1:1-11
Revelation 5:11—6:11
Matthew 13:18-23

F Nehemiah 2:1-20
Revelation 6:12—7:4
Matthew 13:24-30

Sa Nehemiah 4:1-23
Revelation 7:4-17
Matthew 13:31-35

These readings correspond to pages 1083—1119 in Volume II of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Pentecost 25 (November 14)

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| S Nehemiah 5:1-19 Acts 20:7-12 Luke 12:22-31 | Th Ezra 7:1-26 Revelation 14:1-13 Matthew 14:1-12 |
| M Nehemiah 6:1-19 Revelation 10:1-11 Matthew 13:36-43 | F Ezra 7:27-28; 8:21-36 Revelation 15:1-8 Matthew 14:13-21 |
| T Nehemiah 12:27-31a, 42b-47 Revelation 11:1-19 Matthew 13:44-52 | Sa Ezra 9:1-15 Revelation 17:1-14 Matthew 14:22-36 |
| W Nehemiah 13:4-22 Revelation 12:1-12 Matthew 13:53-58 | |

These readings correspond to pages 1119-1153 in Volume II of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings after the Last Sunday of the Church Year (November 21)

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| S Isaiah 19:19-25 Romans 15:5-13 Luke 19:11-27 | Th Zephaniah 3:1-13 1 Peter 2:11-25 Matthew 20:1-16 |
| M Joel 3:1-2, 9-17 1 Peter 1:1-12 Matthew 19:1-12 | F Isaiah 24:14-23 1 Peter 3:13—4:6 Matthew 20:17-28 |
| T Nahum 1:1-13 1 Peter 1:13-25 Matthew 19:13-22 | Sa Micah 7:11-20 1 Peter 4:7-19 Matthew 20:29-34 |
| W Obadiah 15-21 1 Peter 2:1-10 Matthew 19:23-30 | |

These readings correspond to pages 1230-1263 in Volume II of For All the Saints.