

The Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist**Monday, 29 August**

In contrast to the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (observed on 24 June), this Feast Day commemorates his beheading by the tetrach Herod Antipas (St. Mark 6:14–29). The story of John’s death is fairly well-known. John had called Herod to repent for taking his brother’s wife, Herodias, so Herod had John put into prison. Although Herod was reluctant to do so, he had John beheaded to comply with a request from the daughter of Herodias. From the perspective of the world, it was an ignominious end to the Baptizer’s life. Yet, it was in fact a noble participation in the Cross of Christ, which was John’s greatest glory of all. Christ Himself said that there had arisen none greater than St. John the Baptist (St. Matthew 11:11). He was the last of the Old Testament Prophets and also the herald of the New Testament. As the Forerunner of Christ, John fulfilled the prophecy that the Prophet Elijah would return before the great and terrible Day of the Lord (Malachi 4:5; St. Matthew 17:10–13). By his preaching and baptism of repentance, he turned “the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers” (Malachi 4:6). And in the footsteps of the Prophets who had gone before him—in anticipation of the Christ whose way he prepared—this servant of the Lord manifested the Cross by the witness of his death.

Commemoration of Joshua, the Son of Nun**Thursday, 1 September**

Joshua, the son of Nun, of the tribe of Ephraim, is first mentioned in Exodus 17 when he was chosen by Moses to fight the Amalakites, whom he defeated in a brilliant military victory. He was placed in charge of the Tent of Meeting (Ex. 33:11) and was a member of the tribal representatives sent to survey the land of Canaan (Num. 13:8). Later, he was appointed by God to succeed Moses as Israel’s commander-in-chief. He eventually led the Israelites across the Jordan River into the Promised Land and directed the capture of Jericho. He is remembered especially for his final address to the Israelites, in which he challenged them to serve God faithfully (Josh. 24:1–27), concluding with the words, “As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord” (24:15).

Commemoration of Hannah, the Mother of Samuel**Friday, 2 September**

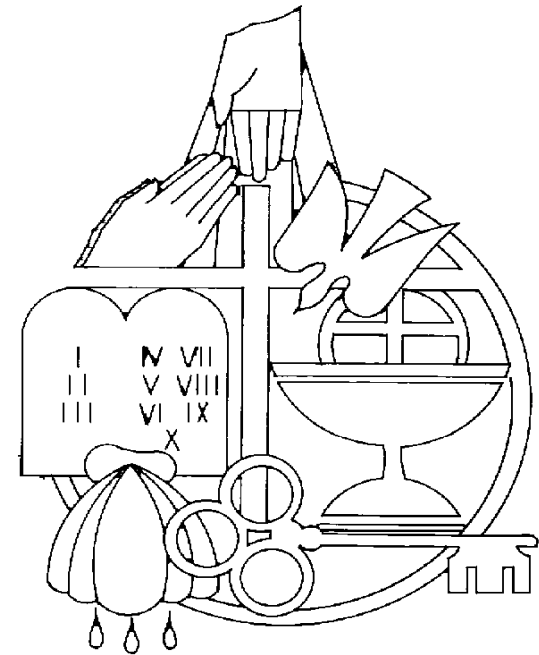
Hannah was the favored wife of Elkanah, the Ephraimite, and the devout mother of the Prophet Samuel. He was born to her after years of barrenness (1 Sam 1:6–8) and fervent prayers for a son (1:9–18). After Samuel was weaned, Hannah expressed her gratitude by returning him for service in the House of the Lord at Shiloh (1:24–28). Her prayer of thanksgiving (2:1–10) begins with the words, “My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in the Lord.” This song foreshadows the Magnificat, the Song of Mary centuries later (Lk 1:46–55). The name Hannah derives from the Hebrew word for “grace.” She is remembered and honored for joyfully having kept the vow she made before her son’s birth and offering him for lifelong service to God.

Commemoration of St. Gregory the Great, Pastor**Saturday, 3 September**

One of the great leaders in Europe at the close of the sixth century, Gregory served in both the secular and sacred arenas of his era. As mayor of Rome, he restored economic vitality to his native city, which had been weakened by enemy invasions, pillage, and plague. After he sold his extensive properties and donated the proceeds to help the poor, he entered into full-time service in the Church. On 3 September, A.D. 590, Gregory was elected to lead the church in Rome. As Bishop of Rome he oversaw changes and growth in the areas of church music and liturgical development, missionary outreach to northern Europe, and the establishment of a church-year calendar still used by many churches in the western World today. His book on pastoral care became a standard until the 20th century.

Looking forward to the Fifth Sunday in Martyrs’ Tide 4 September 2016**Hymns:** LSB #646; LSB #696; LSB #709; LSB #713; LSB #738; LSB #853**Readings:** Deuteronomy 30:15–20; Philemon 1–21; and St. Luke 14:25–35

Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church

929 East Milton Street, South Bend • (574) 287–4151 • emmaus24.org**Rev. Dr. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor****Rev. David A. Seyboldt, Assistant Pastor****✚ DAILY CATECHESIS ON THE WAY ✚****TO AND FROM EMMAUS WITH JESUS****✚ THE FOURTH WEEK OF MARTYRS’ TIDE ✚**

“They were continually devoting themselves to the Apostolic Doctrine and to the Communion, to the Breaking of the Bread, and to the Prayers.”

(Acts of the Apostles 2:42)

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[*The Daily Morning or Evening Prayer, the Benedicamus, and the Benediction*]:

(Morning): We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this night from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would keep us this day also from sin and every evil, that all our doings and life may please You; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

(Evening): We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this day from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would forgive us all our sins, wherever we have done wrong, and graciously keep us this night; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit ☩ be with us all.

Amen.

Then, if it is in the morning, go joyfully to your work, according to your vocations in life, in faith toward God and in love toward your neighbor; or, if it is at the close of the day, go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

Commemoration of St. Augustine of Hippo, Theologian

Sunday, 28 August

Augustine was one of the greatest of the Latin church fathers and a significant influence in the formation of Western Christianity, including Lutheranism. Born in A.D. 354 in North Africa, Augustine's early life was distinguished by exceptional advancement as a teacher of rhetoric. In his book, "Confessions," he describes his life before his conversion to Christianity, when he was drawn into the moral laxity of the day and fathered an illegitimate son. Through the devotion of his sainted mother Monica and the preaching of St. Ambrose, the Bishop of Milan (A.D. 339–97), Augustine was converted to the Christian faith. During the great Pelagian controversies of the 5th century, Augustine emphasized the unilateral grace of God in the salvation of mankind. Bishop and theologian at Hippo in North Africa from A.D. 395 until his death in 430, Augustine was a man of great intelligence, a fierce defender of the orthodox faith, and a prolific writer. In addition to his "Confessions," Augustine's book, "City of God," had a great impact upon the church throughout the Middle Ages and at the time of the Renaissance.

(Monday, 29 August): Collect for the Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Almighty God, You gave Your servant John the Baptist to be the forerunner of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in both his preaching of repentance and his innocent death. Grant that we, who have died and risen with Christ in Holy Baptism, may daily repent of our sins, patiently suffer for the sake of the truth, and fearlessly bear witness to His victory over death; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Collect for the Fourth Week of Martyrs' Tide:

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Daily Themes for Intercessory Prayer:

- Sunday:** For the joy of the Resurrection; for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for vocations and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for Resurrection Lutheran Academy and other schools, our home schools, our colleges and seminaries; for good government and peace.
- Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing; for 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 rear their children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other servants of Christ and His Church; for the fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.
- Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for its spread throughout the whole world; for the persecuted; 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 pastors as they prepare to administer Christ's holy gifts; for receptive hearts and minds on the Lord's Day.

In our Prayers this Week at Emmaus:

David Sams, as he is being catechized in preparation for Holy Baptism, and the Sams family, as they are selling their home and planning a move to Florida; Dave Smith, recovering from his recent hospitalization for pneumonia; and Dcs. Sandra Rhein, in her travels to and from Taiwan this coming month, and in her ongoing hymnal project work for Lutheran churches around the world

This Week in the Church Year

"The one who exalts himself will be humbled," the Lord Jesus proclaims, "but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Your sin at its root, and all your sinful thoughts, words, and actions, are an exalting of yourself above both God and your neighbor. You shall, therefore, be humbled by the Lord, whether in time or in eternity. Pray that He would call you to the humility of repentance and faith while the day of salvation is at hand in Christ Jesus. For He has humbled Himself, taken on the form of a servant, and become obedient, even unto death upon the Cross, in order to raise you up with Himself in His Resurrection and His righteousness through His forgiveness of all your sins.

Emphasis: We Are Humbled and Exalted by the Cross of Christ

The Order of Daily Catechesis in Word and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of daily catechesis as you and your family are able. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

[The Opening Versicles and Psalmody]:

O Lord, open my lips. **And my mouth will declare Your praise.**

Make haste, O God, to deliver me. **Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**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.**

Psalm 131 (and/or one or more of the appointed daily Psalms listed below)

Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	103, 150	5, 31, 145	42, 146	89:1-18; 147:1-11	97, 147:12-20	51, 148	104, 149
Evening	117, 139	84, 71, 29	102, 133	1, 33	16, 62	142, 65	118, 111

**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.**

The Verse: St. Luke 14:11

“Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,
and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Readings for the Fourth Week in Martyrs' Tide:

Sunday, 28 August 2016 (St. Augustine of Hippo)

1 Kings 11:1–26; 2 Corinthians 6:1–18

Monday, 29 August 2016 (The Beheading of St. John the Baptist)

1 Kings 11:42—12:19; 2 Corinthians 7:1–16

(Revelation 6:9–11; Romans 6:1–5; and St. Mark 6:14–29)

Tuesday, 30 August 2016

1 Kings 12:20—13:5, 33–34; 2 Corinthians 8:1–24

Wednesday, 31 August 2016

1 Kings 16:29—17:24; 2 Corinthians 9:1–15

Thursday, 1 September 2016 (Joshua, the Son of Nun)

1 Kings 18:1–19; Ephesians 1:1–23

Friday, 2 September 2016 (Hannah, the Mother of Samuel)

1 Kings 18:20–40; Ephesians 2:1–22

Saturday, 3 September 2016 (St. Gregory the Great, Pastor)

1 Kings 19:1–21; Ephesians 3:1–21

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: The Fourth Commandment

What is the Fourth Commandment?

Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

The Hymns of the Week

“LORD JESUS CHRIST, LIFE-GIVING BREAD”

LSB #625

[Daily Prayer: Invocation, Apostles' Creed, Kyrie Eleison, and the Our Father]:

In the Name ☩ of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and ☩ the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father Who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever & ever. Amen.