

The Feast of St. James the Elder, Apostle**Tuesday, 25 July**

St. James with his brother John, sons of Zebedee and Salome (see Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40), were fishermen in Galilee who were called with Peter and his brother Andrew to follow Jesus (Matthew 4:18–22). In the Gospel lists of Jesus' Apostles, James is listed following Peter and preceding John. Together these three appear as leaders of the Twelve. Because James precedes John, it is reasoned that James is the elder of the brothers. The Acts of the Apostles records that James was beheaded by Herod Agrippa I, probably between A.D.42 and 44 (Acts 12:1–2). Thus James was the first of the Twelve to seal his Apostolic Ministry as a Martyr.

Commemoration of Johann Sebastian Bach, Kantor**Friday, 28 July**

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) is acknowledged as one of the most gifted of all composers past and present in the entire western world. Orphaned at the age of ten, Bach was mostly self-taught in music. His professional life as conductor, performer, composer, teacher, and organ consultant began at the age of 19 in the town of Arnstadt and ended in Leipzig, where for the last 27 years of his life he was responsible for all the music in the city's four Lutheran churches. In addition to his being a superb keyboard artist, the genius and bulk of Bach's vocal and instrumental compositions remain overwhelming. A devout Lutheran, he is especially honored in Christendom for his lifelong insistence that his music was written primarily for the liturgical life of the church to glorify God and edify his people.

Commemoration of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany**Saturday, 29 July**

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany were disciples with whom Jesus had a special bond of love and friendship. John's Gospel records that "Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus" (John 11:15). On one occasion Martha welcomed Jesus into their home for a meal. While she did all the work, Mary sat at Jesus' feet listening to His Word and was commended by Jesus for choosing the "good portion which will not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:38–42). When their brother Lazarus had died and was buried, Jesus spoke to Martha this beautiful Gospel promise: "I am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live" (John 11:25–27). Ironically, when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, the Jews became more determined than ever to kill Jesus (John 11:39–54). Six days before Jesus was crucified, Mary anointed His feet with an expensive fragrant oil and wiped them with her hair, not knowing at the time that she was doing it in preparation for Jesus' burial (John 12:1–8; Matthew 26:6–13).

Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well shall fare.

Looking forward to the Fifth Sunday in Apostles' Tide

30 July 2017

Hymns: LSB #504; LSB #621; LSB #696; LSB #713; LSB #732; LSB #754

Deuteronomy 7:6–9: By His grace alone, God chose us to be His holy people.

Romans 8:28–39: Our salvation is entirely the work of God and His free gift.

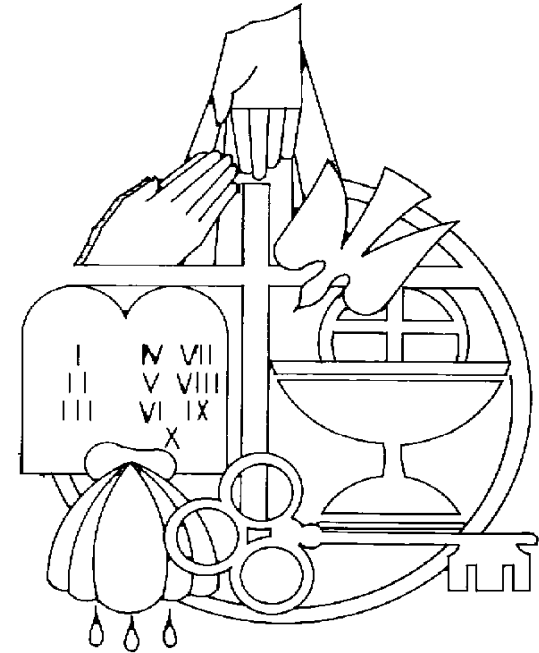
St. Matthew 13:44–52: The Son of God has purchased us to be His very own.

Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church

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✚ **DAILY CATECHESIS ON THE WAY** ✚

TO AND FROM EMMAUS WITH JESUS

✚ **THE FOURTH WEEK OF APOSTLES' 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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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:

*Mark & Eleanor Schneider, united in holy matrimony in Chicago yesterday;
Kelvin & Melissa Rodriguez and their baby daughter;*

Pastor Stuckwisch, Deaconess Rhein, and all others attending and participating in the LCMS Liturgy Institute at Concordia, Chicago, this week; and

The Emmaus Youth and chaperones attending the Higher Things Lutheran Youth Conference at Valparaiso University this week.

[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.

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.

[The Collects of the Week, Intercessions for each day of the week, and Special Petitions]:

(Saturday, 25 July): Collect for the Feast of St. James the Elder, Apostle:

O gracious God, Your servant and Apostle James was the first among the Twelve to suffer martyrdom for the name of Jesus Christ. Pour out upon the leaders of Your Church that spirit of self-denying service that they may forsake all false and passing allurements and follow Christ alone, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Collect for the Fourth Week of Apostles' Tide:

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; 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 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.

The Fourth Week of Apostles' Tide

23-29 July 2017

This Week in the Church Year

It is the Seed of the Word of God, sown by Christ, which brings forth a harvest and bears the fruits of faith. Whatever is sown apart from His Word is of the devil, who plants the weeds of false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice, even among the people of God. Thankfully, the Lord is patient and long-suffering, and He does not uproot the weed-infested field, lest the beleaguered crops be destroyed. Rather, He continues to send the preachers of His Word to proclaim the Law and the Gospel, unto repentance and faith in the forgiveness of sins. Thus does He preserve us in His righteousness.

Emphasis: The Word of God Bestows the Righteousness 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 119:57-64 *(and/or one or more of the daily Psalms listed below)*

Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	67, 150	57, 145	54, 146	65, 147:1-12	143, 147:13-21	88, 95, 148	122, 149
Evening	46, 78, 93	85, 47	28, 56, 99	125, 91	6, 81, 116	20, 96, 98	100, 63

**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. Matthew 13:35b

(Jesus said): “I will open My mouth in parables;
I will utter things hidden since the foundation of the world.”

Readings for the Fourth Week of Apostles’ Tide:

Sunday, 23 July 2017

1 Samuel 6:19—7:17; Acts 19:1–22

Monday, 24 July 2017

1 Samuel 8:1–22; Acts 21:15–36

Tuesday, 25 July 2017 *(The Feast of St. James the Elder, Apostle)*

1 Samuel 9:1–27; Acts 21:37—22:16

(Acts 11:27—12:5; Romans 8:26–39; and St. Mark 10:35–45)

Wednesday, 26 July 2017

1 Samuel 10:1–27; Acts 22:17–29

Thursday, 27 July 2017

1 Samuel 12:1–25; Acts 22:30—23:11

Friday, 28 July 2017 *(Johann Sebastian Bach, Kantor)*

1 Samuel 13:1–18; Acts 23:12–35

Saturday, 29 July 2017 *(Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany)*

1 Samuel 14:47—15:9; Acts 24:1–23

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: The Table of Duties, concluded

TO YOUTH

“You younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.”

(1 Peter 5:5–6)

TO WIDOWS

“She who is really a widow, and left alone, trusts in God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day. But she who lives in pleasure is dead while she lives.” *(1 Timothy 5:5–6)*

TO EVERYONE

“The commandments . . . are all summed up in this saying, namely, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” *(Romans 13:9)*

“I exhort . . . that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men.” *(1 Timothy 2:1)*

The Hymns of the Week

“HEAR US, FATHER, WHEN WE PRAY”

LSB #773

[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.