



**DAILY BREAD
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS
PENTECOST 7—YEAR C**

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father
and of the Son +
and of the Holy Spirit.

G: Amen

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 66

**A: At the works of your hands, O Lord,
I lift up my voice in song;
I sing for joy.**

L: Shout with joy to God, all the earth!

**G: Sing the glory of his name; make his
praise glorious!**

L: Praise our God, O peoples,

G: let the sound of his praise be heard.

L: He has preserved our lives

G: and kept our feet from slipping.

L: Come and listen, all you who fear God;

G: let me tell you what he has done for me.

L: If I had cherished sin in my heart,

G: the Lord would not have listened;

L: but God has surely listened

G: and heard my voice in prayer.

**A: At the works of your hands, O Lord,
I lift up my voice in song;
I sing for joy.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READING & MEDITATION *see next page*

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**A: 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 and ever. Amen.**

VERSE OF THE DAY

A: Happy are they who hear the Word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience. (Luke 8:15 cf. RSV)

BENEDICTION

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

A: Amen

READING AND MEDITATION:

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: The Lord invites believers to take part in his kingdom work. What joy and privilege is ours to work in his harvest fields, to witness the power of the Spirit, and to support this ministry!

As you study this week, seek to find the *connecting theme* in all the lessons by using Luther's Four Big Barber Questions to ponder and discuss each individual reading:

1. *What is God saying to me in this lesson?*
2. *For what does this lesson lead me to give thanks?*
3. *What sins does this lesson lead me to confess?*
4. *For what does this lesson lead me to pray?*

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 10:1-12, 16-20

Jesus sends out the seventy-two to proclaim peace to the people. But they go empty handed. In this way, God's people are given the opportunity to respond to God's goodness by sharing all good things with his messengers. What a privilege to bear such good tidings and humbly receive such gifts! What joy to see the Word at work, accomplishing the purpose for which it is sent! As messenger or hearer, what grace to be numbered among those whose names are written in heaven!

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 66:10-14

Through the ministry of the Gospel God extends peace to the world. Through the preaching of the Word, the hand of the Lord is made known to his servants and the fury of the Lord is made known to his enemies. Where there was seeming defeat, there is now victory. Where there was despair there is now purpose. Where there was distraught fear, there is now the carefree joy of a child dancing in mother's lap. Yes, the Lord has nourished and comforted the faithful with his message of peace. It is our privilege to witness this kingdom work and rejoice with all Israel in the comfort that has come to our hearts.

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: GALATIANS 6:1-10, 14-16

Using harvest language, Paul is inspired to encourage our participation in the Lord's kingdom work. In our "Me" oriented culture, bearing our own burdens seems tough enough. But the Lord calls on each of us to help bear each other's burdens. What joy is ours to fulfill the love-law of Christ as we share the message not only of forgiveness in Christ Jesus but also of comfort for the weary. This doing "good to all" even carries over into our support of kingdom workers as we share all good things with spiritual instructors.

My takeaways:

SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST LESSON: 1 KINGS 17:1-16

God provided for his prophet through a wonderful miracle. God could have kept providing for his prophet in that way, but he had another plan. He would give the people of God the privilege of providing for and supporting his minister. It was still a miracle; it was still the blessing of God that made it possible. But God in his wisdom wanted his Church to share in the work of supporting the ministry of the Word. And they were doubly blessed.

My takeaways:

SUPPLEMENTAL SECOND LESSON: PHILIPPIANS 4:10-20

Christians supporting the work of the Gospel offer a fragrant offering and an acceptable sacrifice to God. Paul acknowledges with joy the generosity of the Philippian congregation. Even when he was not directly serving them, they continued to support his mission work by meeting his physical needs. What privilege it is to praise God by supporting the Lord's kingdom work. In this way the Lord continues to provide for his full-time servants in the church and promises even more: To those who give support to the Gospel, God promises to meet all their needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus!

My takeaways:

What major theme(s) connect(s) all the lessons?