



**DAILY BREAD
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS
CHRISTMAS DAY — 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 98

**A: Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.**

L: The LORD has made his salvation known

**G: and revealed his righteousness to the
nations.**

L: He has remembered his love and his faithfulness
to the house of Israel;

**G: all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

L: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,

G: burst into jubilant song with music;

L: make music to the LORD with the harp,

G: with the harp and the sound of singing.

L: Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.

**G: He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.**

**A: Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty God, grant that the birth of your one
and only Son in the flesh may set us free from our
old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus
Christ 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: When the time had fully come, God sent
his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to
redeem those under law. (Galatians 4:4,5a)**

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:

The Nativity of Our Lord—Christmas Day: The glory of the Lord permeates the lessons for Christmas Day. With the glory of the Lord still shining from Luke 2, we assemble once again to celebrate with joy the Word made flesh. The mystery of the incarnation is beyond us. Yet we are blessed to participate in him who is born the Bread of Life in the House of Bread. How beautiful is the good news, how radiant his glory, how perfect his timing, how gracious is the Father to give us his son for us and for our salvation.

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: JOHN 1:1-14

In typical Johannine fashion, the inspired Apostle elegantly recalls the loving purpose of the Lord in Jesus. From the beginning Word, to the light-shining-in-darkness of Isaiah, to the preparatory work of John the Baptizer, the Apostle John points to Jesus as the fulfillment of the glory of the Lord, full of grace and truth.

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 52:7-10

The Lord's mighty deliverance in battle, pictures his mighty victory for his people over sin, death, and devil. The "beautiful feet" of his messengers are privileged to bear the Good News of glorious redemption, "the salvation of our God."

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: HEBREWS 1:1-9

Tying the Old Testament prophecies to New Testament fulfillment, the writer to the Hebrews describes the being and purpose of the Christ-child: from eternity, he is the Son, the Word, the Heir, the Radiance of his Glory, God himself made flesh for the purification of sins and the rule of righteousness.

My takeaways:

SUPPLEMENTAL THE GOSPEL: JOHN 1:1-18

The supplemental addition of verses 15-18 recall the supplemental First Lesson selected from Exodus. Moses saw it. John saw it. And now we, through eyes of faith, see it too – the glory of the LORD.

My takeaways:

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

SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST LESSON:

EXODUS 33:18-23, 34:5-7

The exegesis for the name of the LORD is heard on Mt. Sinai and seen in the fulfillment of his name. Moses saw it on the Mount of Transfiguration. John saw it. And now we, through eyes of faith, see it, too – the glory of the LORD in the fullness of the Incarnation.

My takeaways: