



DAILY BREAD
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS
EPIPHANY 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 103

**A: I will hear what the Lord proclaims:
peace to his people.**

L: Praise the LORD, O my soul;

G: all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

L: He forgives all your sins

G: and heals all your diseases;

L: he redeems your life from the grave

G: and crowns you with love and compassion.

L: The LORD is compassionate and gracious,

G: slow to anger, abounding in love.

L: He does not treat us as our sins deserve

G: or repay us according to our iniquities.

L: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

G: so great is his love for those who fear him;

L: as far as the east is from the west,

**G: so far has he removed our transgressions
from us.**

L: As a father has compassion on his children,

**G: so the LORD has compassion on those who
fear him;**

L: for he knows how we are formed,

G: he remembers that we are dust.

L: Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;

G: the wind blows over it and it is gone.

L: But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him

G: from everlasting to everlasting.

**A: I will hear what the Lord proclaims:
peace to his people.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Gracious Father, keep your family, the Church,
always faithful to you, that we may lean on the hope
of your promises and be strong in the power of your
love; through your Son, 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: Be merciful, just as your Father is
merciful. (Luke 6:36)**

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 the Epiphany: As love has been shone on us from the Lord's anointed, so we reflect that love to all, even to our enemies.

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 6:27-38

After preaching of blessings and woes to the human heart, Jesus continues by contrasting human love and action with his own selfless love. The Christ-imitating Golden Rule finds no greater, no more challenging application than this: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you.

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: GENESIS 45:3-8A, 15

How quick we are to withhold love when we have been wronged, clinging to anger in a pathetic attempt to make the offender suffer from our displeasure. Praise be to God such treatment is not ours in Christ. Consider Joseph: sold by his brothers, imprisoned, forgotten. Yet he reflected the love of the Lord - revealing himself to his brothers, bringing them to repentance, and providing for their needs.

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON:

1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38A, 42-49

Paul continues his discussion of the resurrection by explaining the connection between the mortal body and the raised, glorified body. Buried with the corruptible body of the first Adam, we will be raised with the glorified body of the second Adam, fit for eternity with him who is the Christ.

My takeaways:

SUPPLEMENTAL SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 12:14-21

Now that blessing and cursing has been established as the work of the Lord (last Sunday's lessons) it is not ours to play God. Yet the believer is compelled to show goodness to all as goodness has been shown to us. Evil will thus continue to be overcome with good, just as all evil has been overcome by the perfect goodness of the Christ.

My takeaways:

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