

A BRIEF GUIDE TO HOME DEVOTIONS

USING THE LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK



INTRODUCTION

The *Lutheran Service Book* hymnal is a great treasure, rich with resources for personal and family devotions. Within its pages are brief services, Psalms, a Bible reading plan, prayers, Luther's Small Catechism, and, of course, hymns. Learning how to use the hymnal for daily devotion is a practice well worth cultivating. If you do not have a hymnal at home, consider asking your pastor if you may borrow one from your congregation.

USING THE HYMNAL

To help you make the best use of your hymnal, Lutheran Church–Canada has developed this brief guide to assist you in quickly finding the resources within the *Lutheran Service Book*. Be sure to set aside a regular time each day for devotions, as establishing a routine is one of the most helpful ways to sustain new devotional practices.

■ Orders of Daily Prayer for Individuals and Families Pages 294-298

These brief, one-page services provide a simple structure for daily prayer, suitable for use by individuals and families in home devotions.

■ Daily Lectionary Pages 299-304

This lectionary suggests short readings from the Old and New Testaments each day for personal study. A table of suggested Psalms for daily prayer is also included.

■ Prayers Pages 305-318

The hymnal includes a collection of suggested prayers that may be used during daily devotions.

■ Hymns

If you are looking for a particular hymn, an alphabetical index of first lines begins on page 1017. A topical index of hymns by subject or church season may be found beginning on page 993.

■ Luther's Small Catechism Pages 321-330

Study anew the basics of the Christian faith with Martin Luther's brief guide. Luther's Small Catechism also includes brief sections on daily prayer, the Table of Duties, and Christian questions and answers.

■ Scripture Readings

If you do not have a Bible, ask your local congregation if one can be provided. You can also read the Bible online at biblegateway.com.