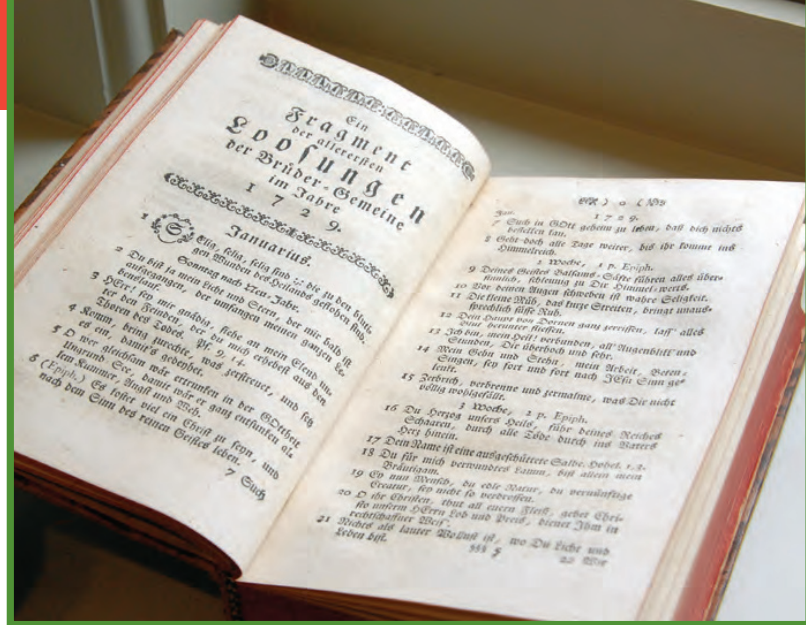




Daily Texts Contents for Each Day



A Guide for Using The Daily Texts

The strength of the Daily Texts lies in presenting the Scripture unhindered by commentary or illustration. The texts are left to stand alone and to speak to each reader in his or her life. This also allows the Daily Texts to be adaptable to different patterns of devotion and study.

The printed texts, hymn verses and prayers are the heart of the devotional guide. Their purpose is to help the reader get more closely in touch with God and to meditate upon the Word of God.

- Feel the encouragement found in the texts.
- Hear any word or correction for your life.
- Ponder the great message of faith.
- Meditate upon the hymn verses and prayers.
- Feel God's presence surrounding you in faith.
- In silence, hear God's word speaking to you.

These texts can be the center of a daily spiritual diary where you keep a journal of your daily meditations and their meaning in your life.

Private devotion and prayer are the times that we converse and respond to God and allow God to speak to us in life. These times should include:

- **Adoration:** Praising God's great love and concerning for you and for all people.
- **Confession:** Looking within yourself, finding where you need to confess sins and shortcomings.
- **Thanksgiving:** Thanks, not just for daily bread and support, but for all God's gifts through Jesus Christ.
- **Supplication & Intercession:** Coming to God with concerns, cares, and burdens for yourself, for others, and for the world we live in.

Photo above: Daily Texts from 1729, preserved at the Moravian Archives in Winston-Salem.

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MARCH

Third Sunday in Lent

Watchword for the Week — O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! Psalm 95:6

Sunday, March 27 — Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

For you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. Malachi 4:2

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
dayspring from on high, be near;
daystar, in my heart appear.

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The night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Romans 13:12

"Wake, awake for night is flying,"
the watchmen on the heights are crying;
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"
Midnight hears the welcome voices
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Where are the virgins, pure and wise?"
The bridegroom comes, awake!
Your lamps with gladness take!
Alleluia!
With bridal care and faith's bold prayer,
to meet the bridegroom, come, prepare!"

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We so want to trust the sunrise, Lord. We saw your trust on a cross and in a tomb. From a place where there seemed only darkness, we saw you trust the sunrise. Give us faith. Amen.

Prayer: A response to God of praise, confession, thanksgiving, or intercession in light of the texts and hymn verses. New prayers are written by members of the Moravian Church each year.

Scripture Lessons: At the top of each page are listed Scripture passages for ongoing study which are not related to the printed texts. Monday through Saturday are part of a plan to read through the Psalms in one year and the rest of the Bible in two. Sundays and special days are the assigned lessons for that day of the church year from the Moravian Revised Common Lectionary, also common to many denominations.

Watchword For The Week/Holiday (every Sunday and some church holidays). Like the daily watchword, the weekly/holiday text is to accompany the reader throughout the week or holiday and is related to the events of the church year. These differ every year based upon the lectionary cycle.

Watchword For The Day: From the Old Testament, it is to be a "watchword" to accompany you throughout the day. Usually a promise, encouragement, admonition, or comfort.

Hymn Verse: Broken down by meter and usually related to the watchword or theme for the day. It is a devotional response or commentary on the text. Can be used for prayers.

Doctrinal Text: From the New Testament; contains a point of Christian doctrine to expand on the watchword.

Hymn Verse: Broken down by meter and usually related to the doctrinal text, although both hymn verses and texts together often have a common theme.

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