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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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Greetings from Augsburg Fortress

A letter from Beth A. Lewis

Dear Partner in Ministry,

An ashen cross being traced on a forehead. Purple banners and paraments adorning the worship space. A palm branch waving in the hand of a child. The quiet reverence of a candlelit Easter Vigil. The excitement and joy of Easter morning.

As we journey through this season of Lent, we will encounter some of these common and shared experiences. At Augsburg Fortress, it is our hope that the supplies and resources that we provide will enrich the worship and faith formation experiences of everyone who participates in these very special seasonal activities and services.

Each and every purchase you make from us helps us support your ministry. Unlike other publishers and church supply companies, Augsburg Fortress reinvests all profits made into the development of new quality ministry resources for the church.

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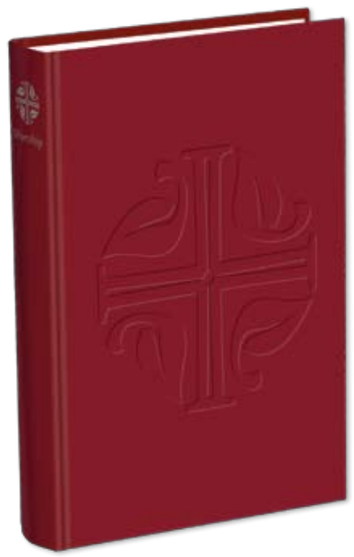
Beth A. Lewis
President and CEO, Augsburg Fortress
ceo@augsburgfortress.org

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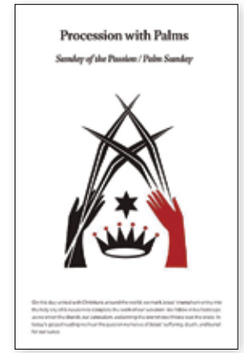
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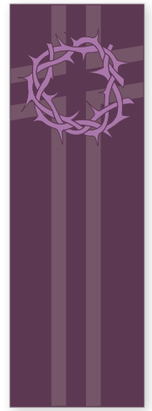
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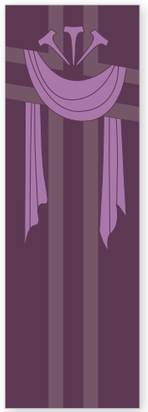
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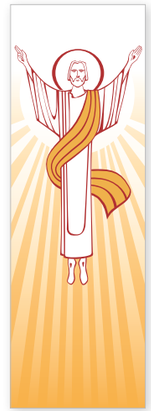
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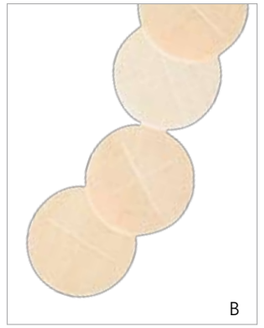
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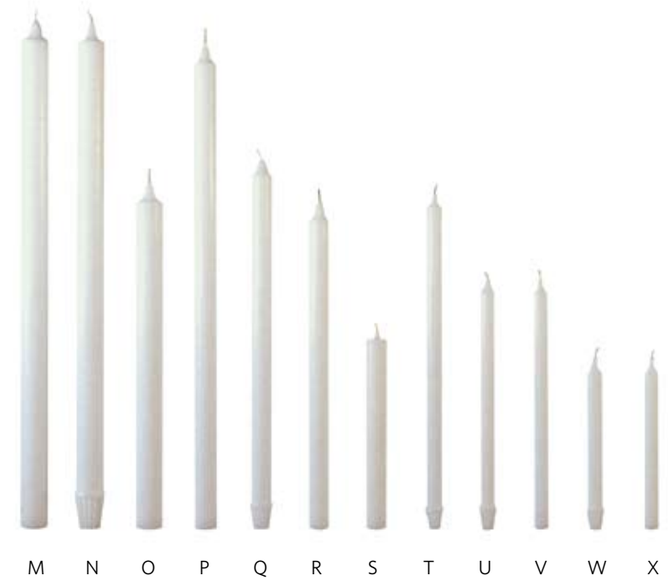


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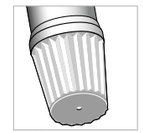
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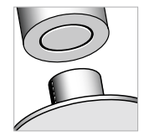
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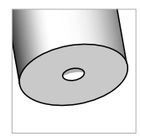
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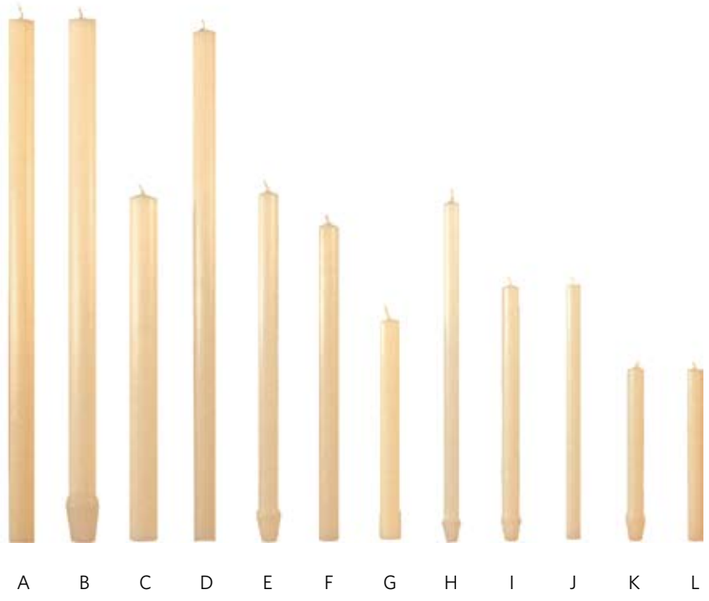
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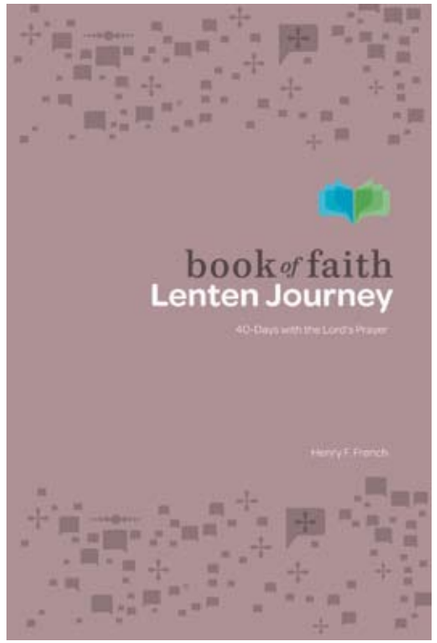
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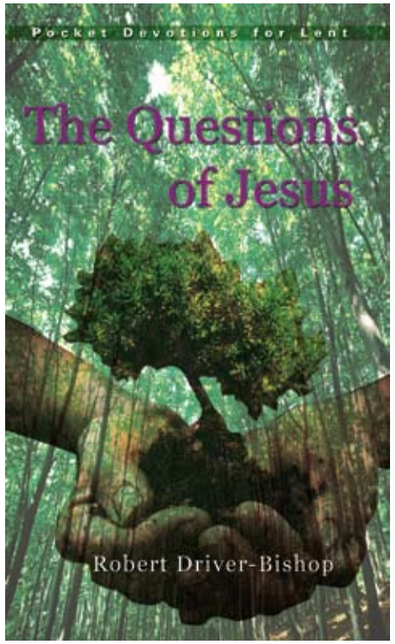
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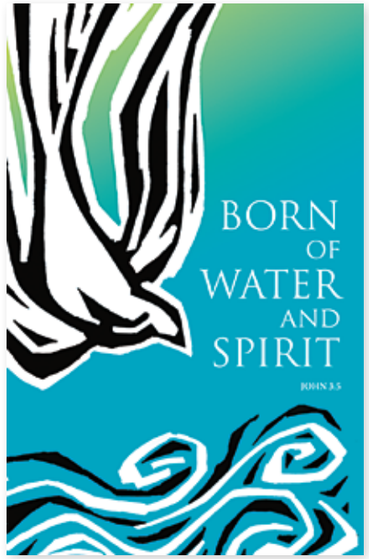
QUESTIONS OF JESUS:
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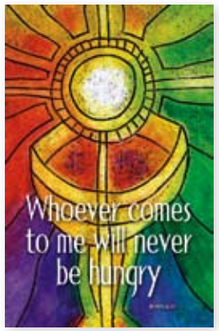
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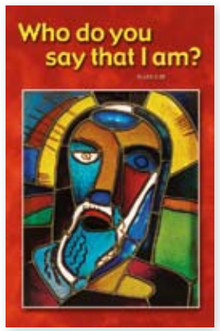
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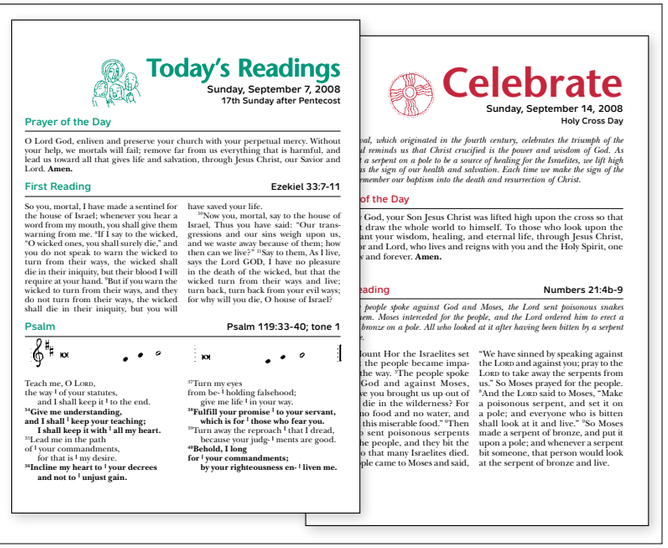
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Today's Readings
Sunday, September 7, 2008
17th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading — Ezekiel 33:7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. 9But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

10Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" 11Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Psalm — Psalm 119:33-40; tone 1

Teach me, O LORD,
the way † of your statutes,
and I shall keep it † to the end.
34Give me understanding,
and I shall † keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with † all my heart.
35Lead me in the path
of † your commandments,
for that is † my desire.
36Incline my heart to † your decrees
and not to † unjust gain.
37Turn my eyes
from be-† holding falsehood;
give me life † in your way.
38Fulfill your promise † to your servant,
which is for † those who fear you.
39Turn away the reproach † that I dread,
because your judg-† ments are good.
40Behold, I long
for † your commandments;
by your righteousness en-† liven me.

Celebrate
Sunday, September 14, 2008
Holy Cross Day

…al, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the … reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As … a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high … the sign of our health and salvation. Each time we make the sign of the … member our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

…of the Day

…God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that … draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the …int your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, …r and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one …and forever. **Amen.**

…ading — Numbers 21:4b-9

…people spoke against God and Moses, the Lord sent poisonous snakes …em. Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord ordered him to erect a …bronze on a pole. All who looked at it after having been bitten by a serpent …

…ount Hor the Israelites set …the people became impa… …the way. 5The people spoke …God and against Moses, …e you brought us up out of …die in the wilderness? For …no food and no water, and …this miserable food." 6Then …sent poisonous serpents …he people, and they bit the …o that many Israelites died. …ple came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. 8And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." 9So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.



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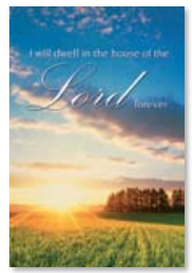
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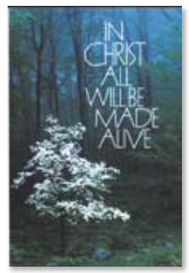
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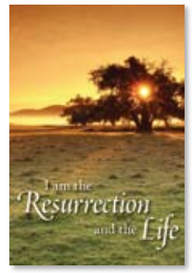
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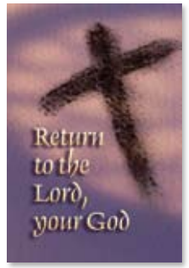
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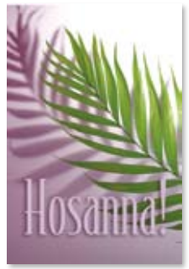
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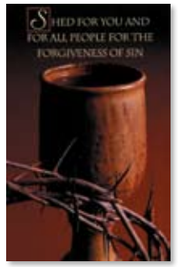
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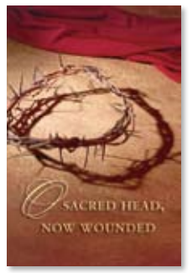
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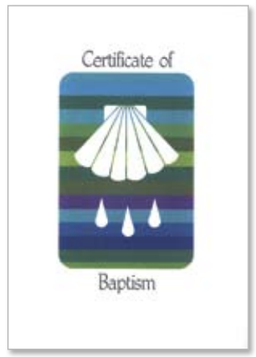
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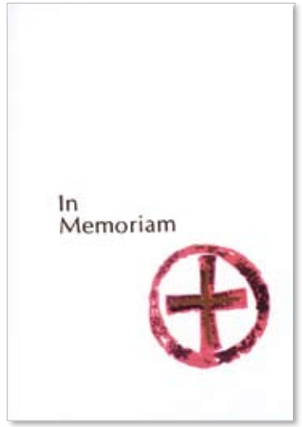
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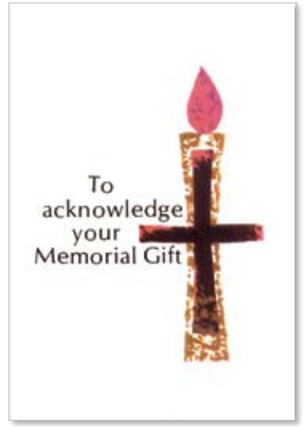
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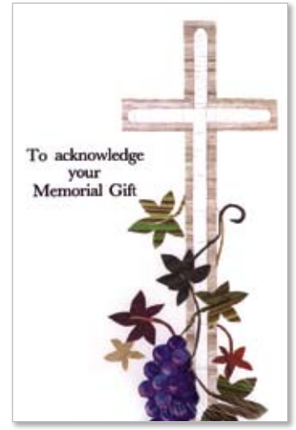
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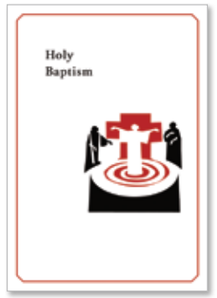
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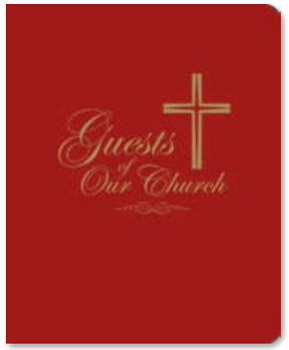
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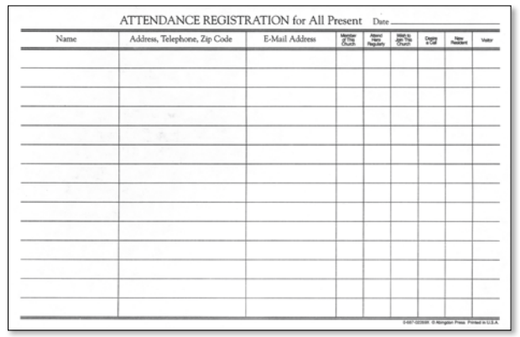
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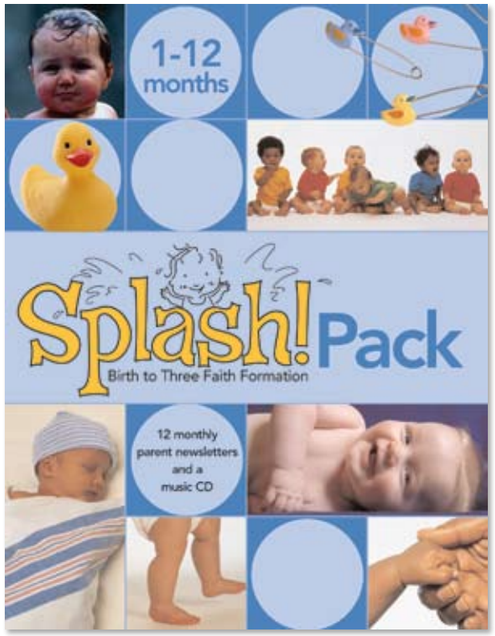
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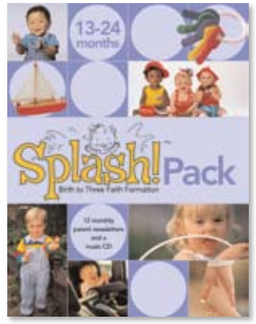
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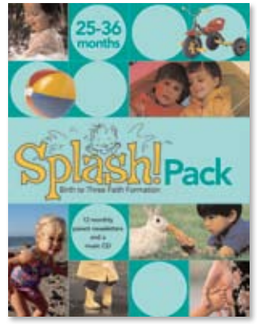
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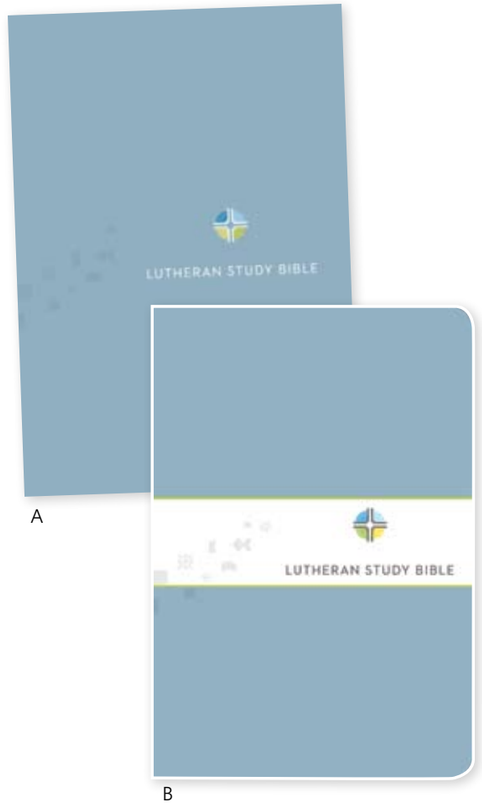
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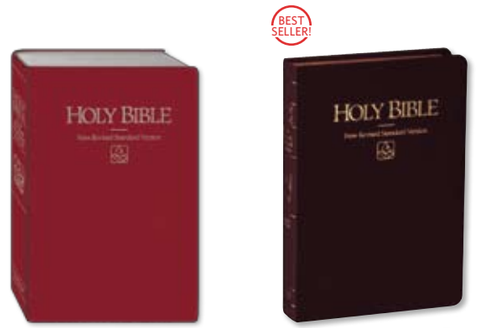
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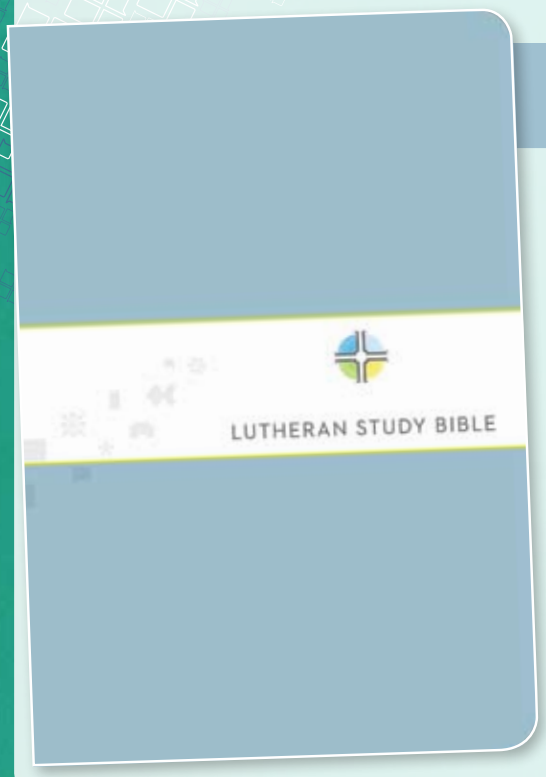
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