



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK 1 Peter 2:2, Psalm 81:1, 7, 10, 16

As newborn babes, Alle- | luia,\*  
 desire the pure milk of the Word. Alleluia. Alle- | luia.  
 Sing aloud to | God our strength;\*  
 make a joyful shout to the God of | Jacob.  
 You called in trouble, and I de- | livered you;\*  
 I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.  
 I am the | Lord your God,\*  
 who brought you out of the land of | Egypt;  
 open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.\*  
 With honey from the rock I would have sa- | tisfied you.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Job 19:26-27

“After my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, who I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

**7** READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and merciful God, as You have brought us to celebrate the festival of the Lord's resurrection, cause us by Your grace to bring forth the fruits thereof in our life and conduct; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**9** PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

**10** SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK  
**I Am Content! My Jesus Liveth Still!**

TLH 196, LSB 468  
 Johann J. Möller



1. I am content! My Jesus liveth still,  
 In whom my heart is pleased,  
 He hath fulfilled the Law of God for me,  
 God's wrath He hath appeased.  
 Since He in death could perish never,  
 I also shall not die forever.  
 I am content! I am content!

5. I am content! Lord, draw me unto Thee  
 And wake me from the dead  
 That I may rise forevermore to be  
 With Thee, my living Head.  
 The fetters of my body sever,  
 Then shall my soul rejoice forever.  
 I am content! I am content!

2. I am content! My Jesus is my Head:  
 His member I will be.  
 He bowed His head when on the cross He died  
 With cries of agony.  
 Now death is brought into subjection  
 For me, too, by His resurrection.  
 I am content! I am content!

**1** BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:  
 In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**2** SAY THE APOSTLES' CREED  
 I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 Maker of heaven and earth.  
 And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our  
 Lord, who was conceived by the Holy  
 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered  
 under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died  
 and was buried. He descended into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the  
 dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at  
 the right hand of God, the Father  
 Almighty. From thence He will come to  
 judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
 Christian church, the communion of  
 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  
 resurrection of the body, and the life  
 everlasting. Amen.

**3** PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER  
 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.

**4** PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

*Morning.* I thank You, my  
 heavenly Father, through Jesus  
 Christ, Your dear Son, that You  
 have kept me this night from all  
 harm and danger; and I pray that  
 You would keep me this day also  
 from sin and every evil, that all my  
 doings and life may please You.  
 For into Your hands I commend  
 myself, my body and soul, and all  
 things. Let Your holy angel be with  
 me, that the evil foe may have no  
 power over me. Amen.

*Evening.* I thank you, my  
 heavenly Father, through Jesus  
 Christ, Your dear Son, that You  
 have graciously kept me this day;  
 and I pray that You would forgive  
 me all my sins where I have done  
 wrong, and graciously keep me this  
 night. For into Your hands, I  
 commend myself, my body and  
 soul, and all things. Let Your holy  
 angel be with me, that the evil foe  
 may have no power over me. Amen.

THEME OF THE WEEK: He is Risen to Bring Us Forgiveness and Faith

The Resurrection of Jesus is our justification. Jesus identified earlier in John 3:15 that the crucifixion will be the foundation of all faith and trust..When we look upon the Son of Man, Who was lifted on a cross, we believe and are saved. Just as God's people were saved by looking at the bronze serpent in Numbers 21. The Resurrection justifies our faith in Jesus. He is the Son of Man. He is the Son of God. Those who look to Him and trust Him will live, just as Job prophesied, "I know my Redeemer lives...at last He will stand upon the earth." Amen and Amen.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 20:19-31: Jesus and the Holy Spirit drive out Unbelief

Jesus is escalating His interaction with His disciples. This culminates with Thomas, the unbeliever. Thomas' lack of faith should condemn him. He "will never" believe that Jesus is raised unless he can stick his digits in His body. Jesus appears and grants his ridiculous request, but then Thomas is filled with the Holy Spirit when he hears the Word, which drives out his unbelief, and Thomas confesses Christ to be Lord and God. Jesus ends this silly, juvenile and reckless unbelief. This can only happen for us, like Thomas, when we have repeated and escalating interactions with Jesus Christ in His Word and Body and Blood. *Lord Jesus, by Your Word and Holy Spirit, increase in me the maturity of faith and drive out unbelief. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 111: The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

It is only in the fear, love and trust of the Lord that we can see the grandeur of the Lord's work and provision. This faith is ongoing, as David says. It is not casual. It is a daily and repetitious thing. We are confronted, daily, by our fallen nature, and the fallen nature of the world. We must not trust our flesh or princes and powers. Faith is the beginning place for our love and adoration of all God has done; His work, His promises. Faith then also helps us see that God's work orders all things clearly and rightly. In Christ, we practice this faith well and our thanks and praise for God find their right location. *God our Father, complete our joy and grant us thankful hearts for all You have done for us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 5:4-10: Faith in Jesus Christ is Satisfying

We desire to be right. We try to be right in morality, therapy, power, war, policy, and law. These things cannot and do not satisfy our desire for righteousness. Only Christ, and faith in Him will satisfy. Even then, the old sinner will try to lead us away into captivity by cagey manipulation. God does not use cagey manipulation. He uses the public proclamation of Jesus Christ driven by the Holy Spirit. Christ publicly died. Christ publicly rose. It is faith in Jesus Christ that makes us right and true humans. All other attempts for righteousness end in lies. They will never satisfy. They crumble. The Gospel is our only hope for everlasting satisfaction. *O Lord, help me be content with Jesus. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Job 19:25-27: Resolution in Resurrection

Job is experiencing God's wrath. Job's friends try to "help" but they are terrible preachers. They do not know how to distinguish the Law and the Gospel. Despite the malpractice, Job clings to the promise of God. Job makes it clear that, even if his friend's terrible sermons kill him and pulverize his flesh, he will see God with his own eyes. The promise of the Resurrection drives Job's hope and vision even in the midst of suffering and death. In this way Job is a preview of Christ, who trusted His Father and was faithful unto death knowing full well that he would live. *O Lord, in the midst of the many changes, chances and sufferings of this mortal world, help us to hold onto You as You are given to us in Promise made concrete in Word and Sacrament. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 21:15-19: Peter's Reconciliation to Jesus

Christian Reconciliation is a clear priority for Jesus and His Church. Here, Jesus meets Peter face-to-face after Peter's denial and withdrawal from His Lord. In firm compassion Jesus leads Peter from division to reconciliation and toward his new vocational horizon. Peter will not deny Christ's sheep and withdraw from them. Peter is to feed and tend the flock that Christ fought valiantly to rescue from sin, death and the devil. In our day, we can only hope that those who have been called into the Office of Ministry would, like Peter, be quick and humble to reconcile and unwavering in their tender care for the Flock of Christ Jesus our Lord. *Lord of the Church, raise up men of conviction, humility, and care to shepherd Your Flock. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 1:17-2:3: Resident Aliens

We Christians are resident aliens, pilgrims in a foreign land. Yet, this is not often how we conduct ourselves in our daily lives. We are ever adjusting, and being adjusted, to the status-quo of this secular, fallen, profane world. Saint Michael cast Satan from heaven, BUT CHRIST HIMSELF OVERCAME SATAN FROM YOU BY HIS PREACHED WORD. Christ has won your heart and soul! How can we, who have citizenship in Heaven with Christ, muddle ourselves in this perishable, malicious, deceitful, hypocritic, slanderous world. Let us be aliens, pilgrims, wanderers, and nomads in this barren world. Our Residency is with Christ in Heaven's Throne room. *Oh Christ Our Lord, guide me to the doors of Heaven and let me reside with thee, always, there. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 4: Commending our whole life to our Lord.

St. David commends his whole life to the Lord. He will lie down and rest in peace because the Lord supplies his safety. David knew and experienced the perils of mortal life. But he will not be tossed around by anxieties. God has proved to be trustworthy. God has showed His care for David, so he will continue to cry to the Lord for his good. Not only this, David will work to bring all Israel, and even all people, with him. "How long will you people chase after lies?!" God has shown good to the King, His people, and all creation. It is the same today. God continues to pour His good gifts upon His creation, but especially upon His people in the Church, in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Oh Lord, be my constant guide and companion on the way. Amen.*

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