

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 68:5-6, 35, 1, 3, 7, 10, 19

God is in His holy habi- / tation.*
He gives a home to the / desolate.
The God of Israel is He who / gives strength*
and power to His / people.
Let God arise, Let His enemies be / scattered;*
let those also who hate Him flee be- / fore Him.
But let the righteous be glad: let them rejoice be- / fore God;*
yes, let them rejoice ex- / ceedingly.
O God, when you went out before Your / people,*
you, O God, provided from Your goodness / for the poor.
Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with / benefits,*
the God of our sal- / vation!

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK 1 Peter 5:6-7

“Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, who are always more ready to hear than we to pray and give more than we either desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy, forgiving those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things that we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Christ, our Lord: through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

TLH 329, LSB 607
Martin Luther



1. From depths of woe I cry to Thee,
Lord, hear me, I implore Thee.
Bend down Thy gracious ear to me,
My prayer let come before Thee.
If Thou rememberest each misdeed,
If each should have its rightful meed,
Who may abide Thy presence?
2. Thy love and grace alone avail
To blot out my transgression:
The best and holiest deeds must fail
To break sin's dread oppression.
Before Thee none can boasting stand,
But all must fear Thy strict demand
And live alone by mercy.
3. Therefore my hope is in the Lord
And not in mine own merit;
It rests upon His faithful Word
To them of contrite spirit
That He is merciful and just:
This is my comfort and my trust.
His help I wait with patience.



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.

Around the Word Devotions + the week of August 11-17, 2024

THEME OF THE WEEK: Believing Humility

As we pray in the Collect for the 11th Sunday after Trinity, God is always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than we desire or deserve. But how can it be that we are not always ready to pray? Why do we not desire to receive all that God gives? The problem is pride. We do not pray or desire because we falsely assume we do not need what God provides, like the Pharisee in Jesus' parable. Let us repent and follow the example of the tax collector, who called upon God for mercy in humility. He received it, and so do we in abundance. This is only through the merits and mediation of Christ, our Lord, through whom we receive forgiveness of our sins and every good thing.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 18:9-14 – Daily Repentance and Daily Forgiveness

The first of the 95 Theses states, "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent,' He willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance." We must daily repent, like the tax collector, because we daily sin much. But we repent with confidence that God will be merciful to us sinners for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, Who humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death on the cross to atone for our trespasses. In Him we are daily and richly forgiven all our sins and are justified in the sight of God. *God, be merciful to us sinners for Jesus' sake! Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Ps 119, eleventh part (KAPH v81-88) – Waiting for the Lord

Salvation is given to us at once through the Means of Grace. Nevertheless, we must still wait with humility for the Lord's deliverance as we suffer in this fallen world. On earth the enemies of God continue to harass His children. Like the psalmist, we long for the fulfillment of God's promise, but we do not wait in vain. We hope in His Word, which is sure. God has promised comfort, and in His perfect time He will most certainly grant it—ultimately when He graciously takes us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven. *O Lord, in Your steadfast love give us life, that we may keep the testimonies of Your mouth. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:1-10 – By the Grace of God We Are What We Are

St. Paul rightly confessed that he was unworthy to be called an apostle, but by the grace of God he was what he was. We also are unworthy to be called children of God, for we have sinned and fallen short of His glory. But Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He died for our sins and was raised on the third day. By the grace of God, delivered through the preaching of the Gospel, now we are what we are: children of God and heirs of the kingdom of heaven. *Lord Jesus Christ, grant us faith to hold fast to Your Word of grace, for by it we are saved. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: 2 Samuel 22:21-29 – A Righteousness Not One's Own

2 Samuel 11 records David's sins of adultery and murder. How can he then sing of his righteousness, blamelessness, and cleanness just eleven chapters later? How can he claim that he "kept the ways of the Lord?" He can for the same reason you can claim to be righteous: by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone. David's righteousness was not his own according to the Law but the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ, His Son and Lord. Through faith in Him, you possess the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. *Grant us, dear Lord, the righteousness from You that depends on faith. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:36-50 – Faith and Love

Do we receive forgiveness by grace alone through faith alone, or do our works contribute something? The sinful woman did not earn forgiveness for her many sins because she loved much. Just the opposite: she loved because she received forgiveness by grace through faith. She trusted in Christ alone for forgiveness. Her faith alone saved her, and the fruit of that faith was seen in her love. So also, our faith receives the forgiveness of sins in Christ alone by His grace alone, and this faith bears the good fruit of love for God and others. *O Christ, grant us forgiveness by Your grace alone, and grant us the fruit of good works that follow. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Romans 10:4-18 – Everyone Who Believes in Him Will Be Saved

This week we have read of sinners who humbled themselves before God, seeking His mercy: the tax collector, Paul, David, the sinful woman. Though their sins were many and great, they called upon God in faith for the forgiveness of all their sins, and they were not put to shame. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How many or how great your sins are, do not despair. Hear the Word of Christ, believe that the Lord Jesus died and rose again for your justification, and you too will be saved. *Almighty God, strengthen our faith in You unto life everlasting. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 147 – A Song of Praise Is Fitting

How fitting to conclude this week's devotions with one of the great psalms of praise! We have read of the Lord's steadfast love toward sinners: how He heals the brokenhearted, binds up their wounds, and lifts up humble sinners by His grace and mercy. Has He not done all this for you also? He has forgiven all your sins, and with that He has given you all that you need to sustain your earthly life. In body and soul, now and eternally, God has blessed you for Jesus' sake. Let us therefore praise the Lord! *We sing to You with thanksgiving, O Lord, for all Your blessings. Amen.*

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