



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 55:16-18, 22, 1, 4-5, 17, 16**

As for me, I will call upon God, and He shall / hear my voice.*
 He has redeemed my / soul in peace.
 Cast your burden / on the Lord,*
 and He shall sus- / tain you.
 Give ear to my / prayer, O God,*
 and do not hide Yourself from my suppli- / cation.
 My heart is severely pained with- / in me,*
 and the terrors of death have fallen up- / on me.
 Fearfulness and trembling have come up- / on me,*
 and horror has over- / whelmed me.
 I will pray, and / cry aloud,*
 and the Lord shall / save me.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 143:2**
 “Enter not into judgment with Your servant, for no one living is righteous before You.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
 O God, as You declare Your almighty power above all in showing mercy and pity, mercifully grant unto us such a measure of Your grace that we may obtain Your gracious promises and be made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

TLH 1, LSB 901
 Benjamin Schmolk



THEME OF THE WEEK: **The Worship of God Wrought by the Spirit**

The Gospel for Trinity X tells of Jesus' prophecy of the destruction of Jerusalem, which was fulfilled by the Roman Army in AD 70. So important is this glimpse of God's judgment that the account of Josephus, an eyewitness to the Jewish War, was read aloud at Sunday Vespers in eighteenth-century Leipzig. This week's lessons, then, call you to repent (Jeremiah 7, Matthew 11, Hebrews 3) and to ask God not to enter into such judgement with you. In Christ alone you have a blameless heart (Psalm 119), spiritual gifts (I Corinthians 12), and the gift of prayer (Psalm 143), all of which are part and parcel of God's "gracious promises" and "heavenly treasures" (Collect).

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 19:41-48 Jesus' Lament for Jerusalem and Temple Cleansing**

The hymn, "O'er Jerusalem Thou Weepst" (TLH 419) summarizes the meaning of Jesus' lament for Jerusalem. Here we see that no one, not even those of the blessed city itself, is righteous before God apart from Christ. If the blessed city had known "the day of visitation," then it would "not reject salvation" (st. 1). But the One who weeps in compassion (st. 1) is the "Lamb for sinners slain," Who alone cleanses your heart through repentance: "Oh, forgive, forgive, my sin! Cleanse me, cleanse me, Lord, within! I am Thine since Thou hast sought me, Since Thy precious blood hath bo't me" (st. 2). *O Thou Lord of my salvation, Grant my soul Thy blood-bo't peace. By Thy tears of lamentation / Bid my faith and love increase. (TLH 419.3) Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: **Psalm 119:73-80 The Clean Heart in Christ**

"Let God be God!" This aphorism, often attributed to Martin Luther, bids you to let go of your idols, O Sinner, that God may create in you a clean heart. Similarly, in the longest psalm of them all, based on the twenty-two letters of the Hebrew alphabet, the psalmist prays that the One Who created him would continue to cleanse the faithful: Let God's steadfast love comfort you, let His mercy come to you, let the insolent be put to shame, and let those who fear Him continue to hear the word of forgiveness. In short, let your heart be blameless through daily repentance and steadfast faith, that the Christ may be your Christ. *Order my footsteps by Thy Word / And make my heart sincere; Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear. (TLH 416.2)*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **1 Corinthians 12:1-11 On Spiritual Gifts**

Imagine your pastor holding up the Communion elements after their consecration and saying, "Be what you see. Receive what you are." This saying from an early church father bids you to *receive* the body of Christ and to *live* as the body of Christ. In today's reading St. Paul, having already preached the the Lord's Supper and the doctrine of the church to his hearers in Corinth, describes the spiritual gifts that flow from the font, pulpit, and altar into your daily lives: wisdom, knowledge, miracles, etc. Here is a variety of gifts of the Spirit, that you, having received His gifts, may be what you have seen at the altar: the very body of Christ. *Spirit of Adoption, Make us overflow / With Thy sevenfold blessing / And in grace to grow. (TLH 229.6) Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Jeremiah 7:1-7 Jeremiah Calls Israel to Repentance**

Jeremiah probably wouldn't be a very good church greeter or a "poster boy" for one of those "friendship" Sundays. The Law was given through Moses. It was interpreted through judges and applied through kings. The Law was preached through Isaiah and other prophets of old. But it thundered mightily through Jeremiah, who called Israel to repentance at the threshold of Babylonian captivity. Thus do you, O sinner, give ear to the Law and repent of your sins, that in Christ you may dwell in the New Jerusalem, world without end. *Crown, O God, Thine own endeavor; Cleave our darkness with Thy sword; Feed the faint and hungry peoples / With the richness of Thy Word; Cleanse the body of this nation / Thro' the glory of the Lord. (TLH 576.3) Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 11:16-24 Jesus Calls the Unfaithful Generation to Repentance**

The unfaithful in this Scripture lesson should have welcomed Jesus as their Messiah, for one always sings and the heart always dances when Christ is present. But they rejected Jesus as they rejected John the Baptist and were therefore condemned. But you, who are a member of the city of God by baptism, live your entire life in the solid joys and lasting pleasures of salvation. You are part of the "thousand generations of those who love God" (Exodus 20:6), i.e., a throng larger than the virtual audience for the current Olympiad. Christ abides in this churchly city, that you may know Him and lack no good thing. *Savior, since of Zion's city / I thro' grace a member am, Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in Thy name. (TLH 469.4) Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Hebrews 3:7-15 "Today, if You Hear His Voice"**

Three times in this Scripture reading the preacher to the Hebrews exhorts them to repent *today*. Old Israel was notorious for complaining instead of repenting and therefore most of them did not enter into the promised land. But the new Israel, even in the days of losing Jerusalem as its capital and the old temple as its "church," has entered her eternal Sabbath rest even now in Christ. So repent *today*. Believe in the word of forgiveness *today*. Make haste to the worship of God wrought by the Spirit *today*, that you may eternally enjoy His eternal Sabbath rest. *How clear is our vocation, Lord, When once we heed Your call: To live according to Your Word / And daily learn, refreshed, restored, That You are Lord of all / And will not let us fall. (LSB 853.1) Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalm 143 "Hear My Prayer, O Lord"**

This Psalm is Christ's own prayer through the mouth of His saints, shaped by three key verbs. God will *hear* you when you call upon His name, for He is your true Father and you are His true child, who can ask Him with all boldness and confidence. He will *answer* you quickly, for He has taught you to pray in this way, knowing that every petition is written in Jesus' shed blood. And He will *deliver* you from every evil of body and soul and grant you a blessed end, for Jesus' sake. Confident in the good news of God's once-for-all judgment on His Son and resting in His Divine clemency, let us conclude the week with the opening petitions of the Litany: *O Lord, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy. O Christ, hear us. Amen.*

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