

“The Worship of God Wrought by the Spirit”



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



1. Open now Thy gates of beauty,
 Zion, let me enter there,
 Where my soul in joyful duty
 Waits for Him who answers prayer.
 Oh, how blessed is this place,
 Filled with solace, light, and grace!
2. Lord, my God, I come before Thee,
 Come Thou also unto me;
 Where we find Thee and adore Thee,
 There a heaven on earth must be.
 To my heart, oh, enter Thou,
 Let it be Thy temple now!
3. Here Thy praise is gladly chanted,
 Here Thy seed is duly sown;
 Let my soul, where it is planted,
 Bring forth precious sheaves alone,
 So that all I hear may be
 Fruitful unto life in me.
4. Thou my faith increase and quicken,
 Let me keep Thy gift divine,
 Howsoe'er temptations thicken;
 May Thy Word still o'er me shine
 As my guiding star through life,
 As my comfort in my strife.

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: **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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