



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Is. 62:11; 30:29-30; Ps. 80:1, 2, 3, 17**

Say unto the daughter of | Zion:  
Behold, your Sal- | vation comes.  
The Lord shall cause the majesty of His voice to | be heard;  
You will have song and | gladness of heart  
O Shepherd of Israel, | give ear,  
You who leads | Joseph like a flock  
Shine | forth,  
You who sit between | the cherubim.  
Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Ma- | nasseh,  
stir up Your might, and come for | our salvation.  
Turn us, O God, and make Your | face shine;  
and | we will be saved.  
May Your hand be upon the Man of Your | right hand,  
upon the Son of Man whom You have se- | cured for Yourself.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Colossians 1:16-17**

“For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, heavenly Father, bestow on us Your grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility, that in the Last Day when He will come again in His glorious Majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may then rise to the life immortal; through Him 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  
**Savior of the Nations Come**

TLH 95, LSB 332  
Martin Luther



1. Savior of the nations, come,  
Virgin's Son, make here Thy home!  
Marvel now, O heaven and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.

3. Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child  
Of the Virgin undefiled!  
Though by all the world disowned,  
Still to be in heaven enthroned.

6. Brightly doth Thy manger shine,  
Glorious is its light divine.  
Let not sin o'ercloud this light;  
Ever be our faith thus bright.

7. Praise to God the Father sing,  
Praise to God the Son, our King,  
Praise to God the Spirit be  
Ever and eternally.

**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 Lord Comes Even Now**

This week as we begin Advent, we are reminded that the incarnation of Christ is something far greater than a single event on a single day. We prepare in these days to stand before our Lord and Judge, Who is king of all creation. Through Him, we find not punishment and severe pain but justice, mercy, and righteousness. This is what Christ gives to all people who are in Him and He in them.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 21:1-9 – Blessed is He Who Is Coming**

I recently saw an ad for a Christmas sweater that said, “Happy Birthday, Jesus.” Is that all Christmas is? If it is merely about a birthday party for Jesus, then there is no need for Advent. Indeed, many Christians have even moved away from observing Advent all together. But we must remember that Christmas isn’t about just an event that happened long ago. It is about the ever-present reality that God became flesh and dwelt among us. It is a reminder that He is never far away, and that He is coming again soon. This is why we have Advent. The crowd rightly shouted their praise for Christ as He entered Jerusalem so long ago. Let us also be prepared to rejoice on the day when Christ comes again. *O Lord, grant me the right understanding of these days that I may prepare to celebrate Your incarnation with true joy. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: **Psalms 1 – The Way of the Righteous**

Blessed in the man. We all want to be blessed. Yet, we still find ourselves listening to people whom we shouldn’t listen to. We scoff, mock, and sin. That’s why our Lord Jesus Christ took on human flesh. Through His incarnation, He came to take the wrath that we deserve. Though He loved the Law of God and fulfilled it, He was treated as the one who took bad counsel, who scoffed, mocked and sinned. He was hung on the tree planted not by a stream of water, but upon the hill of Golgotha. And thanks be to God that His righteousness becomes our righteousness. He takes your sins and makes you clean and righteous in Him. Truly, Christ knows the way of the righteous, and He puts us on the path. *O Lord, forgive me my many sins and keep me on the path of righteousness for Your name sake. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **Romans 13:11-14 – Christ is the Light**

At this time of year, we often have guests in our homes. How do you prepare? Do you clean and set things in order? This is not done to create a false sense of reality, but to put things how we know they should be. In the same way, Paul reminds the Christians in Rome that Christ is coming. To prepare for His return, they are encouraged to put their lives in order. To not dwell in darkness and sin, but be wrapped in the righteous light of Christ. So it is for us today as we go through Advent. Let us also put on Christ and so prepare ourselves for His coming, that He may receive us with joy. *O Lord, bless me that I may resist all sin and evil and gladly serve and obey You, for You are my life and my hope. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Jeremiah 33:14-18 – Righteous Priest and King**

God’s promise to David is fulfilled not just through the birth of Christ, but through the incarnation of the Son of God. This week we remember that Advent and Christmas aren’t just about the birth of Jesus, but about His incarnation. It is through the incarnation of the Son of God into the line of David and through His offspring that Jesus is the king of Israel forever. And Hebrews tells us that Jesus is also a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek. It is this incarnate Lord that is our priest, our king, and our righteousness forever. *Almighty God, I praise You for Your boundless love in which You sent Your son to become the sacrifice for sins and secure His place as king and priest over me forever. Grant me ever increasing faithfulness and trust in Him. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 1:1-25 – Heralded by Angels**

The incarnation of Christ was such a significant event that other miracles are connected to His coming. It wasn’t enough that the virgin should conceive and bear a son, but that in order to prepare the way for His ministry another miracle had to happen. A childless couple is granted a child. And not just any child, a prophet filled with the Holy Spirit from the womb. John was given the blessed task to point people to the incarnate Son of God, the One who is the Lamb that takes away the sin of the world! This is the power and glory of our Lord, that His coming is accompanied by other signs. *Lord, thank You for the prophetic ministry of John who pointed people to Christ. Thank You for all those who have pointed me to You. Bless all faithful ministers of the Gospel during these busy days, especially my own pastor. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Colossians 1:12-23 – Hold it Together**

Our Lord Jesus Christ holds everything together. Everything. Have you ever thought of that before? We often ascribe everything to simple naturalistic and mechanical explanations of the universe. But those things all serve Christ. He is the One who sits at the controls of everything. The One through whom everything was created and Who is responsible for every aspect of our universe. And He knows you. He created you specifically. He loves you and He died for you. He holds everything about our lives in His hands as well. This is a comforting thought. Jesus has it all under control, even if we struggle to understand everything happening. *O Lord, grant me the faith necessary to trust that You are with me and that Your blessings are enough to provide for all my needs. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalms 143 – Longing for the Lord**

In this Psalm, David writes of his longing for God’s goodness. We, like David, know the weight of our own sinfulness as well as the burden of the reality of our sinful world. The cry of the Church has been since the days of the Apostles, “Come quickly, Lord Jesus!” We look forward to the day when Christ returns and sets right all of creation. On that day, Christ will return to judge the world, and we have nothing to fear for we are wrapped in His righteousness. In the meantime, we will continue to pray with the Church throughout the ages, “Come quickly, Lord Jesus!” *O Lord, give me what I need to live in the midst of this world but also come quickly to rescue me from this wicked and fallen world. Amen.*

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