

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 25:6, 2, 1-2, 7-8, 11**

Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and Your loving- | kindnesses,*
for they are | from of old.
Let not my enemies triumph | over me.*
Redeem Israel, O God, out of all their | troubles!
To You, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.*
O my God, I trust in You; let me not | be ashamed;
do not remember the sins | of my youth;*
according to Your mercy remember me for Your | goodness' sake.
Good and upright | is the Lord;*
therefore He teaches sinners | in the way.
For Your name's | sake, O Lord,*

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 25:6**

“Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, our heavenly Father, seeing that of ourselves we have no strength, keep us both outwardly and inwardly that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through 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
When In the Utmost Need

TLH 522, LSB 615
Paul Eber



1. When in the hour of utmost need
We know not where to look for aid;
When days and nights of anxious thought
Nor help nor counsel yet have brought,
4. For Thou hast promised graciously
To hear all those who cry to Thee
Through Him whose name alone is great,
Our Savior and our Advocate.

5. And thus we come, O God, today
And all our woes before Thee lay;
For sorely tried, cast down, we stand,
Perplexed by fears on every hand.
6. Ah! hide not for our sins Thy face,
Absolve us through Thy boundless grace,
Be with us in our anguish still,
Free us at last from every ill.



“He Suffered the Weakness of His Disciples”

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 February 28-March 6, 2021

THEME OF THE WEEK: He Suffered the Weakness of His Disciples

"Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old." So begins the introit for Reminiscere Sunday. This Lent we remember our sins, but God's mercy and love are steadfast towards us. We need this reminder as we battle against all the temptation of the devil, world, and our own flesh. God has called us to holiness, to sonship, to examine ourselves and to hear the absolution of Him who suffered the weakness of the Cross for our salvation. Like the woman of Canaan and the pleading father, our need is great. Jesus is greater! His love is steadfast.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 15:21-28 — Dog? If You Say So!

Why does Jesus act so coldly to this woman of Canaan? At first, He refuses to answer. Then when Jesus does answer, He is stern and gruff. Because of what Jesus does, the woman is brought low with nothing left to hold on to except for Jesus, Himself. She said, "You say I am a dog, for so I am. Yet even dogs are treated with love by their owners." She is then raised along with her healed daughter by Him who made Himself low to redeem her from sin, death, and the power of the devil by His death and resurrection.

Lord, deliver us from unbelief and impatience so that we may hold only on to You. Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 130 — Psalm of Hope

Psalm 130 is a psalm of hope. It begins with the reader in the depth pleading for their cries to be heard by God. The Psalmist then tells us why we want God to hear us. With Him there is forgiveness which leaves the recipient speechless. As a result, we find ourselves waiting for Him like watchmen in the morning because God alone is our help. This psalm then ends with God's unfailing love. This psalm reminds us that without the Law there can be no Gospel. Without being in the depths we would have no deliverer and salvation.

Lord, help us to view Your unfailing love as the extraordinary gift that it is. Amen.

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7 — God Calls Us to Holiness

God's will is for us to be holy as He is holy. That holiness was purchased and provided for us by Jesus. Yet, we are to labor as well. We are to keep ourselves holy, separate, from our old sinful ways. That means we are to fight against the temptations of our flesh, the Old Adam, for there are many different temptations. Fear not, God has called you to holiness — to sonship on account of the Son. Through Him we strive after holiness because God is faithful.

Lord, protect our use of our bodies. Amen.

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 45:20-25 — Idols of Man Can't Compete with God

The Lord created all things including wood. Man, in his fallen hubris, turns that wood into idols for gods that cannot save. Yet, these idols remain nothing but wood. There is no god except the Triune God. The God who alone creates, redeems, and sanctifies. He is our strength. In Him there is salvation. In Him there is forgiveness. He puts to shame our idols and declares that we will have no gods other than Him. He keeps that promise. Amen.

Lord, help us bow before you in faith. Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 9:17-29 — A Father's Plea for Mercy

Jesus is descending from the Transfiguration. He sees a father of faith and despair who wants his son saved from a demon who caused convulsion. It is beyond the disciples' abilities to help and they, likewise, are now full of despair. The Son is the only One who can give aid and comfort. Jesus, full of compassion, commands the mute and deaf spirit to leave the boy and it does. Faith called on Jesus for help. Faith received His gifts.

Jesus, help us call on You in faith at all times. Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: James 5:13-20 — Deliverance From Suffering

Every prayer for healing and for deliverance from suffering is eventually answered with a "yes." We just don't know when or how or where. For some that healing is here and now. For some it is later. For still others it is not until Christ comes again in the Resurrection. God provides the means of deliverance and salvation by the Cross of Calvary and Empty Tomb of Jesus. We call upon His name in sickness and health because He is the One who heals according to His will.

Lord, keep us in faith and prayer like You did for Elijah. Amen.

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 25 — Remember us, O Lord

The devil is our truest spiritual enemy. We, the faithful, need protection from his trials and temptations. God answers our prayers for deliverance. We do not know when or how. But He does answer them. He remembers those who are His and acts on their behalf. He is good and upright. He delivers and declares forgiveness which are signs of His steadfast love and faithfulness towards those who are His. In Him there is refuge. He redeems us from all our troubles by His Son.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Amen.

To support the work of these devotions please visit www.whatdoesthismean.org/support

Around the Word Devotions are produced by Around the Word Journal. Visit www.whatdoesthismean.org to sign up for these free devotions. These devotions are free for individual and family use. Questions? Please email bryan@aroundthewordjournal.com. Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Thank you to sanctus.org and lutheran-hymnal.com for the Collects and Hymns. This week's author is Pastor Edward J. Maanum. He is pastor at First Lutheran Church in Knoxville, TN. He is married to Jenna and they have five awesome children, Ephraim, Tabitha, Johanna, Rafaela and Jubilate.