

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 66:4, 92:1; 66:1-5, 20

All the earth shall | worship You,*
 and sing praises to | You, O God.
 They shall sing praises | to Your name;*
 to Your name, | O Most High.
 Make a joyful shout to God, | all the earth!*
 Sing out the honor of His name; make His praise | glorious.
 Say to God, "How awesome | are Your works!*"
 All the earth shall sing prais- | es to You."
 Come and see the | works of God;*
 He is awesome in His doing toward the | sons of men.
 Blessed be God, who has not turned a- | way my prayer,*
 nor His mercy | from me!

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 16:10

"For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption."

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, Governor of all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear the supplications of Your people and grant us Your peace in our time; 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

Of the Father's Love Begotten

TLH 98, LSB 384
 Aurelius C. Prudentius



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| <p>1. Of the Father's love begotten
 Ere the worlds began to be,
 He is Alpha and Omega,
 He the Source, the Ending He,
 Of the things that are, that have been,
 And that future years shall see
 Evermore and evermore.</p> <p>3. O ye heights of heaven, adore Him:
 Angel hosts, His praises sing;
 Powers, dominions, bow before Him
 And extol our God and King,
 Let no tongue on earth be silent,
 Every voice in concert ring
 Evermore and evermore.</p> | <p>4. This is He whom Heaven-taught singers
 Sang of old with one accord;
 Whom the Scriptures of the prophets
 Promised in their faithful word.
 Now He shines, the Long-expected;
 Let creation praise its Lord
 Evermore and evermore.</p> <p>5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
 And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
 Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
 And unending praises be,
 Honor, glory, and dominion,
 And eternal victory
 Evermore and evermore.</p> |
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"God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create"

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: God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create

Epiphany is the revelation of the Savior to the world. Historically, the day had three Gospel readings. The first reading was the visit of the Magi. The second, the Baptism of Jesus. The third, the Wedding at Cana. We have since separated these readings into three successive weeks. Each reading builds upon the last. God manifesting Himself in the flesh: Immanuel, God with us. For that is who this Jesus is, the Son of God Who has come to save us from our sins. He demonstrates that salvation in His miracle, the turning of water into wine. A few short years later, He will promise the wine is His blood. Ceremonial water used to externally clean, is now used to clean internally. Only in Jesus, the Greater Prophet Who was to come, do we know God's love that delivers us from Sheol. In His love for us, His churchy bride, we learn to love our own spouses.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 2:1-11 — Jesus Cleanses Inwardly

Jesus blesses the institution of marriage with His first miracle, turning of water into wine. This isn't just any old water, but ceremonial water used to make one ritually clean. Jesus turns it into wine, which He later promises is His own blood in the Sacrament. There at the altar He makes us not only outwardly clean, but inwardly clean, by forgiving our sins. He gives us forgiveness obtained at the cross where He calls Mary "woman" a second time. He kept the fourth commandment by creating for her a new life under the protection of John. *Lord, cleanse us inwardly that we may receive Your benefits at Your altar. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 14 — The Fool Says, There Is No God

The fools says there is no God, because he is his own god. That is why he can dismiss his corrupt and abominable deeds as being good works. He doesn't see his own sin for what it is, a turning away from God. He justifies harming others, as long as he gets his own way. No one does good on his own. Jesus, Who has claimed us and made us new in baptism, does good works through us for our neighbors. Jesus frees your works from sin and corruption by giving you salvation upon the Cross. *Lord, continue to do good through us for our neighbors. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:6-16 a — Using Gifts For Others

Not everyone has the same gifts from God. He is the giver; we the receiver of the gifts. We are to use the gifts of prophecy, serving, teaching, exhorting, contribution, generosity and on for the good of others, not ourselves. That is why God gives us the gifts in the first place, to show Christ and His love made manifest. He is the One whose love is genuine and did what was good by suffering on Calvary's holy mountain. He was constant in prayer, even praying "Father forgive them for they know not what they do" for you. *Lord, You give us all of our gifts, help us use them for the benefit of others. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 18:15-19 Jesus is Greater than Moses

Rejoice, O formerly lost and deaf ones. The Prophet greater than Moses has come. He has found you and declared His forgiveness, life and mercy into your sinfully deaf and closed ears with His Words. For the speaker, the Prophet, is the Word from the Beginning. He is the Beginning. As Saint John tells us in His Gospel's prologue: "The law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." Through Jesus Christ the Prophet, Who provided an Exodus, not from slavery in Egypt, but from sin, death, and devil upon Calvary for you.

Lord, You are the Greater Prophet, help us to heed Your words. Amen

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:1-10 Jesus and Zacchaeus

Zacchaeus was a wee little man. He climbed up in the sycamore tree to see the Lord's Christ. He was branded a sinner, for he was. As a forgiven sinner, he learned to love his neighbor because Christ created a new heart within him. As a result of the recreating work of Jesus Christ, Zacchaeus gave half of his money to the poor. He returned fourfold anything defrauded. He was lost, but was found by the Son of Man. The Son of Man also found you and enables you to love and serve others.

Lord, help us rejoice as Zacchaeus rejoiced. Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:21-33 Wives and Husbands

In the Old Testament the priests would lay their hands upon the heads of the animals being sacrificed. Upon the heads the sins would be placed and forgiveness earned. Jesus is the Head. Upon Him was sin placed and salvation earned upon Calvary. You are the Bride, the Church, the one redeemed by the Head. "This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church." This is the model for husbands and wives. He is the sin bearer and gospel proclaimer. She is the receiver, as one who receives from Christ.

Lord, help our marriages be reflections of Your love for the Church. Amen.

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 16 — God Will Not Abandon Our Souls

"For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption." He is the safe harbor. We take refuge in Him. We join the psalmist in rejoicing in the presence of God. We rejoice with a joy that looks forward to the resurrection that is happening around us now. Now is the time of the Lord's visitation. Jesus' time has come upon the throne of Calvary's Cross. We come and dwell in the sanctuary of the Lord, in His presence, in His Redeeming One who saves our souls from death.

Lord, help me rejoice in Your salvation. Amen.