

“God Manifested in the Infancy of Jesus”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Isaiah 6:1. Revelation 19:6; Psalm 100:1-5**

I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and | lifted up,*
 And the train of His robe filled the | temple.
 And I heard the voice of a great multitude, | saying,*
 “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omni- | potent reigns!
 Make a joyful shout to the Lord, | all you lands!*
 Serve the Lord with | gladness;
 Know that the Lord, | He is God;*
 it is He who has made us, and not | we ourselves;
 enter into His gates with thanks- | giving,*
 and into His | courts with praise.
 For the Lord is good; His mercy is ever- | lasting,*
 and His truth endures to all gener- | ations.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 72:18**
 “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, Who alone does wondrous things.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
 Lord, we implore You, give ear to our prayers and lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You now live and reign with the Father 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 **O Jesus, King of Glory**
 TLH 130
 Martin Behm



1. O Jesus, King of Glory,
 Both David's Lord and Son!
 Thy realm endures forever,
 In heaven is fixed Thy throne.
 Help that in earth's dominions,
 Throughout from pole to pole,
 Thy reign may spread salvation
 To each benighted soul.

6. And bid Thy Word within me
 Shine as the fairest star;
 Keep sin and all false doctrine
 Forever from me far.
 Help me confess Thee truly
 And with Thy Christendom
 Here own Thee King and Savior
 And in the world to come.

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 January 3-9, 2021

THEME OF THE WEEK: God Manifested in the Infancy of Jesus

Our Lord Jesus is powerful and mighty and is reigning now through amazing ways. Right now, today, Jesus is on the throne! He is all powerful and Almighty, yet He rules in ways that confound the wisdom of the world (1 Corinthians 1). Jesus is ruling now, but not through war and bloodshed like sinners attempt to rule, but in a higher way. He came as an infant and He rules in meekness through grace, mercy and the forgiveness of sins. He rules by love and understanding. He rules in wisdom and does wondrous things. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for forgiving us sinners and being our Lord, King and ruler. Amen.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 49:1-7 - Glory to God from Coast to Coast

It is God Himself in the person of His Son Jesus that from coast to coast the people must hear. The gospel of His nativity is the light for the nations. His cross will bring in all to faith, those preserved of Israel. By Jesus we are saved. By Jesus we have joy. By Jesus God is once again glorified among His people. We are the people from afar as Isaiah calls us, and therefore to Jesus we give full attention. He is our Savior forever! *Lord Jesus, You became a servant to us in Your life, death and resurrection. We believe, help our unbelief. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 96 - Praise Creator God

Our God, the only God is to be praised! In this psalm the psalmist uses beautiful imagery to recount that praise. The trees, the sea, the fields and all creation. Sin destroyed our ability to see God at work, but instead caused false conclusions. Despite all that, God spoke His truth into this dark world through the nativity of His Son. Through His Word, Jesus shows us once again that He alone is creator and more. He also shows us through Christmas that this Creator loves the world. *Lord Jesus, thank You for Your sustaining creation and Your love, shown perfectly at the cross. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 60:1-6 - We are Thrilled and Exult our Lord

This Psalm speaks of great things! Darkness covered the land when Jesus died on the cross (Luke 23:44). Jesus is the One to whom all the world comes, thanks to the Holy Spirit's leading (John 15:26). When we see Jesus both as an infant and crucified, we radiate, we are thrilled and we exult in God as the psalm says. In the nativity, cross and resurrection, the glory of God is truly shown. *Lord Jesus, thank You for including us as believers by faith in giving glory to You! Lord, help us enjoy this forever and ever. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 2:1-12 - Wisdom Worships Christ the Lord

The wise men from the East come to Jesus and worship the baby Jesus. The reality of a Savior being in the world in His nativity brings people to worship. We too, thousands of years later, still follow the light of the baby Jesus to church and gather, kneel, offer gifts and worship. Thanks to the Word of God's messengers, we hear the Gospel that a Savior is born, and that we are forgiven. We can be wise too and go to where He promises to be and worship Him. *Lord what a blessing Your church is. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 3:13-17 - Connected by Baptism

The baptism of Jesus is one of the most special moments in Scripture. Many ask, why was Jesus baptized if John's baptism was for repentance? Jesus didn't sin. The answer is Jesus wasn't baptized because He needed to repent or because He needed baptism. Instead, He knew you and I would need Him. By being baptized and then having us be baptized too, we are given the real connection to Jesus' nativity, life, burial, resurrection and ascension. By baptism, everything Jesus accomplished becomes ours. Humanity was connected to God forever in His nativity!! *Lord, grant us eternal life. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Romans 3:21-31 - The New Creation Exalts Christ

All have sinned. There's no boasting allowed. This precisely strips away any righteousness that any person may believe they have. Sin made humanity into people who think they are good, that are unwilling to be critiqued and that will blindly mock God to His face. Jesus is born and dies for us and this Gospel Word gives us faith. Baptism kills that old selfish nature and grants us a new life. This new life sticks up for God's righteousness instead of our own. It exalts who God is, rather than living in self-defense. *Lord bless us with true faith, Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 72 - A Kingly Coronation

Psalm 72 scholars think it may have been used at the coronation of Solomon. It speaks of a king and how he accomplished wonderful things. As this psalm lifts up the king, we remember the true interpretation of this psalm; the epiphany and exaltation of the infant King Jesus. He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. He is the one who truly will live forever and who does all good. *Lord Jesus, may we learn to share in Your love with confidence in You as our Lord and King. Amen.*

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