

“Submission to the Lord of Compassion”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 47:1-2, 3, 6-8**

Oh, clap your hands, all you / peoples!*
 Shout to God with the voice of / triumph!
 For the Lord Most High is / awesome;*
 He is a great King over / all the earth.
 He will subdue the peoples / under us,*
 and the nations un- / der our feet.
 Sing praises to God, sing / praises!*
 Sing praises to our King, sing / praises!
 For God is the King of / all the earth;*
 sing praises with under- / standing.
 God reigns over the / nations;*
 God sits on His / holy throne.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 125:1**

“They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth forever.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, whose never-failing providence orders all things both in heaven and earth, we humbly implore You to put away from us all hurtful things and give to us those things that be profitable for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
All Depends on Our Possessing

TLH 425, LSB 732
 Unknown



1. All depends on our possessing
 God's abundant grace and blessing,
 Though all earthly wealth depart.
 He who trusts with faith unshaken
 In His God is not forsaken
 And e'er keeps a dauntless heart.

2. He who hitherto hath fed me
 And to many joys hath led me,
 Is and ever shall be mine.
 He who did so gently school me,
 He who still doth guide and rule me,
 Will remain my Help divine.

4. When with sorrow I am stricken,
 Hope my heart anew will quicken,
 All my longing shall be stilled.
 To His loving-kindness tender
 Soul and body I surrender;
 For in Him alone I build.

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: Submission to the Lord of Compassion

This week, our readings and meditations center on the loving-kindness and mercy of God in Christ Jesus. For those who are weary, those who suffer from sin and all its effects, those who are looking for refuge in an ever-changing and turbulent world, the Lord's promises to us is our balm and our certainty. Read the meditations this week with an eye toward seeing anew your great need and what the Lord does to fill that need. Pray for renewed faith and trust in Him, and that you would be able to bear fruit in keeping with repentance.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Mark 8:1-9 The Lord has Compassion

The Lord has compassion. This is what our reading for today teaches us. The people had continued with Jesus for three days and they had nothing to eat, so He feeds them in mercy. But note this well dear reader – the people did not ask to be fed. They did not plead with the Lord to give them their daily bread. It is the Lord who has compassion and love and mercy for His dear ones, even before they ask Him. How much more then will He have compassion on those who ask Him! He is ever ready to forgive, restore, renew, and provide with daily bread. He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. *Lord Jesus, You have compassion on sinners like me. Feed me with Your mercy that I may not faint on the way. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:49-56 Remember

The Lord remembers and we remember. Remember what? What is it that we recall, that we bring to mind? The word which God Himself has spoken. His promises to never leave us nor forsake us. His promises of forgiveness and grace. In our affliction and pain, in our disappointments and sorrows, yes, even our joys, we remember the Word of the Lord. It is our “comfort in affliction” our “songs in the house of pilgrimage.” Christ Jesus has given us His word to remember, and we too implore the Lord to remember what He has promised. And He, in His mercy, remembers. We remember. He remembers. He keeps His word. And in this we have hope. *Lord Jesus, remember us in our affliction, and keep us according to Your gracious promises. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:19-23 Wages and Gifts

We confess in the Small Catechism that our Heavenly Father gives us all good things “without any merit or worthiness in me.” (Creed, 1st Article). If our Father would give us what we deserve, that is, by our merit, no one would be saved, let alone be given a breath of fresh air or a morsel of food. For “the wages of sin is death. But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Our wages, what we earn, what we deserve is death because of our sin. But God in His mercy gives us not only air and food, hearth and family, and all good gifts, but gives us His greatest gift - the forgiveness of our sins - freely, as a gift. *Lord Jesus, I earn nothing before You but death. Give to me Your grace to believe Your promises and thus receive Your forgiveness. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:23-25 – The Lord Satiates the Weary Soul

Without the blessings of the Lord there is no peace, no tranquility among men. This is true not only for the family and the state, but also in the soul. Temporal blessings like flocks and herds come from the hand of our gracious God, so that it causes men to praise the God from whom all blessings flow. And how much more do we receive these good things because we have been given a good conscience before God! As the Lord says, this praise results from His work: “For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul.” We praise Him for His mercy toward us. By His forgiveness and kindness do we live in thanksgiving and praise. *Lord Jesus, You alone satisfy my soul. Fill me with praise for all Your benefits. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:36-50 Tears of Thanksgiving – St. Mary Magdalene

Where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation, says Dr. Luther. When we receive that salvation and life by grace through faith, the faithful soul cannot help but give thanks to God for His loving-kindness. The sinful woman who wet the Lord's feet with her tears and anointed His feet with perfume does not do so because it will get her favor with God. Rather her bosom overflows in gratitude toward Jesus, for though she is of no account before men, before God she is righteous and holy and good. Jesus dies and rises so that she would live by faith. And so shall we. Her faith in the Lord saves her, and all who trust in the Lord Jesus. *Lord God, save me by Your grace that I would pour forth tears of faith and repentance. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Acts 14:8-23 Power or Weakness?

The contrast is stark – the crippled man is healed in a powerful show of God's power and mercy, and a few verses later Paul is stoned and dragged out of the city, left for dead. So is the life of faith one of power or weakness, of glorious manifestations or of patient suffering? The answer is yes. The Christian can be confident of the powerful working of God in him by the word and sacraments, that his sins are forgiven, and that God hears his prayers, perhaps even answering them with a powerful outstretched hand. But nevertheless “through much tribulation [we] enter into the kingdom of God”. No matter what comes, as with Paul, the Lord Jesus is with you to uphold you and save you. *Lord Jesus, help me in times of trial, and in times of joy. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 125 The World Gone Mad

In a world gone mad, there are few things that have endured thus far which will not be pulled down by those that hate the Lord and His word. The institutions which bind peoples together - holy marriage, the rule of fathers, public decency, and even our own God-given sexuality – are ever in the crosshairs of the deluded and seduced. In such a place, where does one find changelessness and certainty? Where does one flee for refuge? *“They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth forever”.* The Lord, His word, His promises are certain, if you trust in Him, you yourself are never moved by the forces which haunt you. You are not moved, for the Lord is with you. *Lord Jesus, be the fortress about us, who trust in You! Amen.*

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