

“The Sanctification Wrought by the Spirit”



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 27:1, 7, 9, 11-12, 14**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry / with my voice!\*  
 Have mercy also upon me, and / answer me.  
 You have / been my help;\*  
 do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my sal- / vation.  
 The Lord is my light and my sal- / vation;\*  
 whom / shall I fear?  
 Teach me Your / way, O Lord,\*  
 and lead me in a / smooth path.  
 Do not deliver me to the will of my adver- / saries;\*  
 for false witnesses have risen a- / gainst me.  
 Wait on the Lord; be of good / courage,\*  
 and He shall streng- / then your heart.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **John 15:3**  
 “Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK  
 O God, who has prepared for those that love You such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love toward You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

**9** PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

**10** SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK **We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost**  
 TLH 231, LSB 768  
 Martin Luther



1. We now implore the Holy Ghost  
 For the true faith, which we need  
 the most,  
 That in our last moments He may  
 befriend us  
 And, as homeward we journey,  
 attend us.  
 Lord, have mercy!

4. Thou highest Comfort in every need,  
 Grant that neither shame nor death  
 we heed,  
 That e'en then our courage may never  
 fail us  
 When the Foe shall accuse and  
 assail us.  
 Lord, have mercy!

**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 Sanctification Wrought by the Spirit

God is holy. We are not. Knowing this and seeing the miracle, Peter said to Jesus, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man." It is as if he is saying, "Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you" (Psalm 143:2). Jesus did not abandon Peter in the boat with his sin and shame. He said, "Do not be afraid." This Word of comfort is full of the Spirit Who cleanses human hearts by faith. When Jesus speaks kindly to sinners, when the Good News of His reconciling death is preached openly, the Holy Spirit casts a great net that calls, gathers, and sanctifies sinners so they stand forgiven and reconciled before God.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 5:1-11 "Caught and Catching"

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:31). Though the Law demands perfect holiness, we have betrayed our Lord through our idolatrous desires, our unkind words, and our shameful actions. According to the Law, falling into God's hands means death. That is why Peter despairs and says, "Depart from me." God be praised that though he was humbled, Jesus raised Peter up. Jesus' Word caught Peter in His net of grace. See how it pleases Jesus to place that same saving net into Peter's care so that one forgiven sinner now has the privilege of pulling other humbled sinners up from despair into the joy of faith. *Thank You, heavenly Father, for Your Word that catches me out of condemnation and draws me to heaven. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119, fifth part (HE v33-40) "Learning to Love the Law"

A peaceful conscience is always joyful and content. It fears nothing nor can it be dismayed. When the body is roiled by calamity, the good conscience is a haven of peace. David's prayer flows from such a conscience. By faith he is reconciled to God. He knows the Lord's mercy through the promise. What more could his sanctified mind and heart desire? To know and understand God's statutes. To delight in them! He prays that his eyes, which have seen the Lord's deliverance, would see the treasures of righteousness in the Ten Commandments. He prays that instead of being a reproach, the Lord's Law would instruct and give pleasure to his reconciled soul. *Having given me peace by faith alone, give me delight in the study of Your Law, O Lord. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 3:8-15h "Called to Bless"

Sanctification can be defined widely or narrowly. In the wide sense it includes everything the Spirit does to make you holy like baptizing you, converting your heart by faith, and keeping you in the church through Word and Sacrament. Narrowly, it means your daily growth in faith, in doing more and more good works, and learning to forsake this world by desiring the next. This is the subject of our lesson. Peter says we are called to be a blessing to others. He tells us to do good, to seek peace and pursue it. From where should we obtain such a tender and loving heart? From the Spirit! He gives us His strength not only to be saved but to make us a blessing to others through daily doing good. *Grant me Your Spirit, O Lord, so I may bless and do good. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 16:14-21 "Gathering the Scattered"

When fathers won't teach their children to fear the Name of the Lord, generations suffer and are lost to eternal death. Rather than leaving the nations to their spiritual destruction, the Lord promises to bring His people back to their own land. We should not think this is going to be a politically reconstituted Israel. This is the Christian church. The fishers are the Apostles. The hunters are the men ordained into the preaching office. The Lord's people are the saints who have been pulled out of the sea of unbelief into the ark of the church. They have been caught by God's humbling Word of judgment and set free again by the absolute pronouncement for the sake of Christ's atoning sacrifice. *Grant me and my children to know and fear Your Name, O Lord. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:13-26 "Keeping the Creed Pure and undefiled"

Jesus wanted the Apostles to hear, to see, and to remember everything He preached and did. After He ascended, He blessed their testimony with the Holy Spirit, giving authority and power to their words. Through their glad tidings of cross and resurrection, the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, and enlightens you in the true faith. What is this faith? Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. If we keep this creed undefiled, we have every heavenly blessing. If we confuse this testimony with worldly prejudices and opinions, we become a stumbling block to ourselves and others, a hinderance that Jesus must overcome. The Lord grant us to keep our minds set on the things of God. *May Your cross be my joy, O Jesus, for by Your sufferings You saved me. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 2:4-10 "A Spiritual House"

The church is neither a manmade building nor a vaguely defined tradition of spiritual opinions. Peter says you are a living stone built into the spiritual house whose chief cornerstone is Christ. "And whoever believes in this will not be put to shame!" Therefore, the church is living, made up of men and women who trust in Christ for salvation. Even in death, they worship God as they wait for their resurrection. The church is also called holy. They perform their priestly service of praise and thanksgiving which are spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God. Praise the Lord! You belong to a redeemed and holy house living in the marvelous light of the Gospel. *I give You thanks, O Lord, for the mercy by which I have been built into Christ's body, the church. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 113 "A Prayer of Praise for the Lord's Name"

Among all your possessions, which is the most valuable? An antique piece of jewelry passed down through the family? Your new set of golf clubs? Your library? Perhaps you won't be so materialistic and say your children. Even your kids aren't as valuable as the great gift described by the psalmist. It is the Lord's Name. It is to be praised. It is blessed from the rising of the sun to its setting. It is the first thing for which Jesus tells us to pray in the Lord's Prayer. Why? Where the Lord places and reveals His Name, there is saving and eternal blessing. God be praised that He has placed His Name on you in baptism. He vindicates His Name when He works mightily through His Gospel to save you and give you peace. *Praise the name of the Lord! Amen.*

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