

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 27:1-2, 3-5**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom / shall I fear?*

The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I / be afraid?

When the wicked came a- / gainst me,*
my enemies and foes, they stum- / bled and fell.
Though an army may encamp a- / gainst me,*
my heart / shall not fear;
though war should rise a- / gainst me,*
in this I will be / confident.

One thing I have desired of the Lord, that / will I seek:*

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days / of my life,
for in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pa- / vilion;*

he shall set me high up- / on a rock.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Romans 14:8**

For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Grant, O Lord, we implore You, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by Your governance, that Your Church may joyfully serve You in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK **O Holy Spirit, Enter In**

TLH 235, LSB 913
Michael Schirmer



1. O Holy Spirit, enter in
And in our hearts Thy work begin,
Thy temple deign to make us;
Sun of the soul, Thou Light Divine,
Around and in us brightly shine,
To joy and gladness wake us.
That we, In Thee
Truly living, To The giving
Prayer unceasing,
May in love be still increasing.

5. Thy heavenly strength sustain our
heart
That we may act the valiant part
With Thee as our Reliance,
Be Thou our Refuge and our Shield
That we may never quit the field,
But bid all foes defiance.
Descend, Defend
From all errors and earth's terrors;
Thy salvation
Be our constant consolation.



Around the Word Devotions + July 9-15, 2017
Brought to you by **Worldview Everlasting**

“The Discipleship Preserved and Perfected by the Spirit”

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 Discipleship Preserved and Perfected by the Spirit**

The Bible is not about you. The Bible is about Jesus for you. Only in fixing our eyes on Jesus and His cross do we find any measure of hope in this life. In lifting our eyes to Christ, we are pulled away from ourselves, and can live free from trying to serve ourselves. Our Lord serves our needs, calls us righteous and perfect, and leaves us free to deal with our neighbor in the same love which saved us. As we struggle, fail, and sin, we keep our eyes on Jesus. He gives Himself to us in Word and Sacrament.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 6:36-42 Know, but don't judge**

It's almost like Jesus knew the whole "Judge not" thing would be problematic. He does not mean "never call something wrong." He gives two parables to help us understand. He does not say "if you see a blind person stumbling around, leave him alone, it's none of your business," or "leave the speck in your neighbor's eye, it probably doesn't hurt." To judge is not to know, but to condemn. We don't punish evil. God does. We know good from evil, and we use that knowledge to help our neighbor. We point to Jesus who gives sight to the blind and saves sinners.

Lord Jesus Christ, give sight to those blinded by sin and judge us righteous by Your blood. Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: **Psalm 119:25-32 My soul clings to dust.**

My wife miscarried again. Two of my children are dead. My soul clings to dust. Being good won't change that. Those children heard God's word, sharper than any sword, given to save. I trust they rest with Christ, but my soul melts away for sorrow. Make me understand the way of Your precepts. The wages of sin is death. The free gift of God is life everlasting in Christ Jesus our Lord. We distinguish Law from Gospel, but the two work together in Christ who fulfills the law, saves the lost, and conquers death with life.

Jesus Christ, balm to our wounds, hear us who pray in sorrow and set before us the way of faithfulness and enlarge our hearts. Amen.

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **Romans 8:18-23 It's broken down here**

All of creation waits in pain. It's broken down here. We broke it. Sin broke it. Hope is not looking back to our mistakes, or even forward with plans to do better. Hope is in redemption. All of creation looks to Jesus. His death and resurrection have undone the damage sin wrought. We have the firstfruits of the Spirit. Even now we are free. Not just to do more damage to God's creation by sinning, but to lift up our heads in hope. We are more than broken. We are children of God, adopted in the waters of baptism.

Come, Lord Jesus, and answer the call of a groaning creation with the redemption of our bodies and life everlasting. Amen.

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Isaiah 58:6-12 These Things Agree in Jesus**

Whenever anyone pits two gifts of God against each other, they usually aim to disregard one of them. Why commune when you can just pray? Why more Law when you can just have Gospel? The prophet Isaiah holds both together. The Lord chose to fast from glory, and in the humility of the cross set us free from bondage. He also calls us to love our neighbor. These are only held together when our eyes are on the Lord, and not ourselves. He is our righteousness.

Lord Jesus Christ, answer our call and be our light, our healing, and our righteousness that having our eyes turned from ourselves, we may see Your all fulfilling glory. Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 5:43-48 Be Jesus.**

Be perfect doesn't mean 'do what is in you.' It means 'be whole.' Complete. Not in behavior, but even in essence. That which was corrupted in the fall must be restored. Be perfect. Same root word Jesus cries out from the cross. τέλος. It is finished. It is perfect. The cross is where perfection happens for you. Your sins are forgiven you. You are how you are meant to be. Perfect. We wear that perfection in our baptism, where we put on Christ and His works and His righteousness.

Lord Jesus Christ, send the Paraclete to cover us in the baptismal robes of Your perfection that we may be perfect in You. Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Romans 14:7-17 Christianity is bigger than you**

So much selfishness and idolatry stems from the idea that everything is about us. Christianity is bigger than you. The Bible is not about you. It's about Jesus for you. If the world doesn't revolve around you, the actions of God which save you are central. His death and resurrection, His Word and Sacraments are everything. These gifts are not just for you, but all the world. Those who God calls holy are worthy of being treated that way, but we only see this in looking to Christ as our all. Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

Lord Jesus Christ, fix our eyes upon Your mercies that we may see all things through the light of your life. Amen.

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalm 92 How do we measure Righteousness?**

The wicked sprout like grass and the evildoers flourish. You won't measure faith by prosperity. Prosperity doesn't last. Righteousness isn't measured in stuff, but in the works of the Lord. Jesus died for sinners to win a kingdom that will not be destroyed. The faithful sometimes languish, but they are not forgotten by the Lord, they will bear the fruit of everlasting life, for the Lord is their rock, and He will exalt them to flourish on the last great day. Jesus died for you. You are baptized. Take heart. Give thanks to the Lord.

O Lord our God, rock of our salvation, give to us lips to sing Your praise, and point us to the last great day where we shall be lifted up to flourish forevermore. Amen.