

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 25:15-16, 1-2, 17-18, 20**

My eyes are ever | toward the Lord,\*  
for He shall pluck my feet out | of the net.  
Turn Yourself to me, and have mer- | cy on me,\*  
for I am desolate and af- | flicted.  
To You, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.\*  
O my God, I trust in You; let me not | be ashamed;  
the troubles of my heart | have enlarged;\*  
bring me out of | my distresses!  
Look on my affliction | and my pain,\*  
and forgive | all my sins.  
Keep my soul, and de- | liver me;\*  
let me not be ashamed, for I put my | trust in You.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Ephesians 5:1-2**

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

We implore You, almighty and merciful Father, to look upon the hearty desires of Your humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies; 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 **Lord of Our Life and God of Our Salvation** TLH 258, LSB 609  
Matthaus Apelles von Lowenstern



- 1. Lord of our life and God of our salvation.  
Star of our night and Hope of every nation,  
Hear and receive Thy Church's supplication,  
Lord God Almighty.
- 2. Peace in our hearts, our evil thoughts assuaging;  
Peace in Thy Church where brothers are engaging;  
Peace when the world its busy war is waging.  
Calm Thy foes' raging.
- 3. Lord, Thou canst help when earthly armor faileth;  
Lord, Thou canst save when deadly sin assaileth;  
Lord, o'er Thy Church nor death nor hell prevailth;  
Grant us Thy peace, Lord.
- 4. Grant us Thy help till backward they are driven;  
Grant them Thy truth that they may be forgiven;  
Grant peace on earth or, after we have striven,  
Peace in Thy heaven.



“He Suffered the Opposition of Hell”

**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: He Suffered the Opposition of Hell

The reality of the devil is inescapable during Lent. In the first two weeks of this season we have heard how he tempted our Lord in the wilderness and how one of his demons severely oppressed the daughter of a Canaanite woman. The Scriptures are clear: Satan exists, and he is a liar and murderer from the beginning. But take heart! "For us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself elected!" As strong as Satan may be, Jesus Christ is infinitely stronger. He has attacked and overcome the forces of hell. He delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to His blessed kingdom. By the blood of the Lamb and by the Word of our testimony, the devil is conquered, and "the Kingdom ours remaineth."

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 11:14-28: The Finger of God

Jesus says that it was by the finger of God that He cast out demons, and thus the Kingdom of God had come upon the people. God's kingdom still comes to us today when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity. By the power of the Holy Spirit through the Word and Sacraments we receive the work of Jesus not in disbelief or doubt like the crowds, but in true saving faith. *Father, let Your Kingdom come that we may believe in Your Son. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 43: The Vindication of God

"Vindicate me, O God." With these words the psalmist is calling on God to judge His cause. That is a bold request for a poor, miserable sinner to make of the all-holy and righteous God. But the psalmist is confident to do so because God is the One in whom he takes refuge. We too may call upon God for vindication and defense in an ungodly, deceitful, and unjust world, for our Christ is our refuge and strength. For the sake of His sufferings and death, we are now justified, that is, counted as holy and righteous in His sight. *Vindicate us, O God, for Jesus' sake, that we may praise You, our salvation and our God. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:1-9: Children of Light

Ephesians 4 concludes with God's forgiveness of us in Christ. Therefore, continues Paul, the one who has been forgiven should imitate God. This passage sets our Christian lives in the proper order. First, we become children of God and saints because Jesus loved us and died for us. For His sake we are forgiven. Then, we walk in love as children of light by avoiding sin and doing good works. Since we are no longer darkness but light in the Lord, let us live accordingly. And when we sin, let us flee to the forgiveness which is ours in Jesus. *Lord Jesus, grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may do what is pleasing to You. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: 2 Samuel 22:1-7: My Lord and My God

David was in great distress. To be sure, he faced many lethal foes throughout his life, but the fiercest enemy he encountered was the horrible terrors of conscience, which were to him as cords of Sheol and snares of death. In his distress he did not look to his own works to make satisfaction for his sins, but he called upon the Lord, who answered him from His temple. When your conscience assails you, do not look to yourself but to Jesus Christ alone, who has answered your cry with His own cry: "It is finished!" *O Lord, grant to us a good conscience for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 8:42-51: Children of God

Even in earthly matters we know it's "like father, like son." How much more so is this true in spiritual matters! If your father is the devil, which is true of all unbelievers, then you will be like him in murder, deceit, blasphemy, and finally death. But through the waters of Holy Baptism you have become beloved children of God. Having Him as your Heavenly Father, therefore, you follow Him in loving Him, loving His Son Jesus also, hearing His Word, and finally possessing eternal life. Almighty God, we give You thanks for claiming us as Your beloved children in Holy Baptism. *Grant us to love You and receive Your Word as truth. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 2:1-7: The First Love

The Ephesian church had patiently endured the trials that came from holding fast to pure doctrine and opposing false teachers. But they had abandoned their first love, which is the love of God in Christ Jesus for us. Therefore, in love Jesus rebuked them for this abandonment. He wanted them to repent and be restored. Our Lord rebukes us for our sins for the same reason. He is not willing to let us perish but repent, that having conquered, we might eat of the tree of life in the Paradise of God with Him forever. *Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word, that we might love others as You have first loved us. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 86: You Have Helped and Comforted Me

Why should we poor sinners cry out to God and expect Him to answer? David answers, "For You, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon You." We pray to God with all boldness and confidence because He has revealed Himself to us as merciful and gracious in the Person of His Son, Jesus. He became Man for us men and for our salvation. He suffered and died to deliver our souls from the depths of Sheol. Therefore, we call upon Him in the day of trouble, trusting that He will answer us. *We give thanks to You, O Lord our God, for great is Your steadfast love toward us. Amen.*