

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 25:1-3a, 4-5, 21-22**

To You, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.*
O my God, I trust in You; Let me not | be ashamed;
Let not my enemies triumph | over me.*
Let no one who waits on You | be ashamed.
Show me Your | ways, O Lord;*
teach | me Your paths.
For You are the God of my sal- | vation;*
on You I wait | all the day.
Let integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me,*
for I | wait for You.
Redeem Isra- | el, O God,*
out of all their | troubles.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 143:8**
“Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
Almighty God, heavenly Father, bestow on us Your grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility, that in the Last Day when He will come again in His glorious Majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may then rise to the life immortal; through Him 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 **Savior of the Nations Come**
TLH 95, LSB 332
Martin Luther



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| 1. Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Thy home!
Marvel now, O heaven and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth. | 6. Brightly doth Thy manger shine,
Glorious is its light divine.
Let not sin o'ercloud this light;
Ever be our faith thus bright. |
| 3. Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child
Of the Virgin undefiled!
Though by all the world disowned,
Still to be in heaven enthroned. | 7. Praise to God the Father sing,
Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be
Ever and eternally. |



“The Lord Comes Even Now”

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 Lord Comes Even Now**

This week as we enter into the Advent season yet again, we will focus on how our King comes. We will see that He comes to call us, He comes to clothe us, and He comes to grant us deliverance. One of the great mercies our King gives is to hold His Church together as His own. This is especially important in these days as so many are separated from the larger body of believers and are unable to gather for worship. Know that Jesus is still our King and our Lord. He is still your King and Lord as well. The Lord bless your time in His Word and your study of it this week.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 21:1-9 The King's Coming Brings Rejoicing**

It might seem strange to begin the season of Advent with an event that happened only days before the death of our Lord. This is necessary for two reasons. First, we are reminded of the joy that Christ's coming brings. We look forward to the day when our Lord will return and we will rejoice at His coming much like the crowd in Jerusalem. But it is also good because it rightly orients us as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. The joy of Christmas is not simply the miracle of life in a new baby. The joy comes from knowing that our Lord became flesh so that He would one day die for our redemption. His coming brings rejoicing though for Him it meant death. *Righteous Lord, please grant to me in these days a proper joy for all that You have accomplished for me. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 4:18-22 The King Comes to Call**

It is easy for us to imagine how we might react if put in the same situation as figures from the Bible. How would we react to the call of Jesus to follow Him? But this is no hypothetical situation. All who are baptized have been called by Jesus to follow Him. You follow the Lord each day of your life. His call for you to follow never needs to be renewed or made again, because He even yet today desires for you to follow Him. People follow those who are worth following. Our Lord Jesus is certainly worthy of us following Him and going where He goes. May we have the courage to do so. *Almighty God, grant me the courage and strength to follow my Lord Jesus where He leads. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **Romans 13:11-14 The King Comes to Clothe Us**

One of the first things that we do every morning is get dressed. At this time of year, perhaps you enjoy putting on a sweater or a favorite warm item of clothing. We have clothes for work, clothes for chores, clothes for relaxing, and many other things that we wear. In our text today, St. Paul encourages us to put on the clothes that our King has given us. We put on Jesus, we put on His righteousness and His goodness. This is no mere article of clothing, but it is the armor of light. By it, we are protected from the evil of the devil and the world. We live as people who are clothed in light rather than the filthy rags of darkness. We do this because our Lord has dressed us. *O Lord, help me to live as someone who You have clothed in the light of Christ. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Jeremiah 33:14-18 The King Comes to Garden**

This text shows us the unbelievable love of God for His people. Even in the midst of decrees about the destruction that will come upon the land due to the sinfulness of the people, God still makes promises to faithfully maintain the righteous branch. He promises His people will benefit from His faithfulness to the old promises of redemption through Abraham's Seed. He had not forgotten because of the people's sin. The promise of the Messiah would be kept. The people from whom the Messiah would come would be protected, not because they were more righteous than others, but because God had chosen them. Through Christ, the Father has chosen you as well. We are made a part of God's faithful people not through birth, but through baptism. *Almighty God, preserve me that I may always receive the blessings You give. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 1:1-25 The King Sends His Messenger**

John, who was the last of the Old Testament era prophets had a miraculous birth from aged parents. Through his ministry, the Word was fulfilled that Elijah would be a forerunner of the Messiah. Truly, a child is a great blessing, and it is a gift that our God sometimes chooses not to give. This can be a painful reality for many. Despite this, we find comfort knowing that there is no reproach from the Lord for not having children. Rather, our value and place before God comes not through our works or the fruitfulness of our bodies, but it is found in our receiving God's gifts of grace, lavished upon us for Christ's sake, by faith. *O Lord, in Your wisdom, You choose to close the womb. Be with those who bear this cross and grant them Your comfort. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Colossians 1:12-23 The King Comes to Keep Us Together**

One of the most significant images that we find for the Church in the New Testament is incorporation into the body of Christ. A healthy body is united and functions properly. How wonderful that we have been incorporated into Christ's perfect body by baptism and faith. By faith we're conformed to His sufferings and death, it's true, but also to His resurrection and eternal life. His redeeming humanity is now the pattern of our own redeemed humanity. Our King gives us His Holy Spirit through His strong and unchanging Word. By the means of Word and sacrament He holds all of us together as His Church, not desiring to see one of us wander astray. *Lord Jesus Christ, You are the head of the Church and are my head as well. Help me to be conformed to Your will that I may serve You in righteousness and truth. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalms 143 The King Comes to Deliver**

This week, we have seen all the ways our Lord works for our help and salvation. He has given us His blessings by calling us to Himself, by clothing us, and holding us together. We answer His call to follow with great joy. We do this because, as we see in this Psalm today, our Lord hears our prayers and our cries for mercy. He is faithful to give us deliverance from our sins. May we always have ears to joyfully hear about the many mercies that our God has granted to us through His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord! *I thank You, my Heavenly Father, for all of the blessings that You have given me and for making me Your own. Bless me that I may hear of Your mercies and tell them to others. Amen.*

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