

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 119:137, 124, 1-2, 5-6**

Righteous are / You, O Lord,\*  
and upright are Your / judgments.  
Deal with Your servant according to Your / mercy,\*  
and teach me Your / statutes.  
Blessed are the undefiled / in the way,\*  
who walk in the law / of the Lord!  
Blessed are those who keep His testi- / monies,\*  
who seek Him with the / whole heart!  
Oh, that my ways were / directed\*  
to keep Your / statutes!  
Then I would not / be ashamed,\*  
when I look into all Your com- / mandments.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 56:13**

“For You have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

**9** PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

**10** SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK  
**In Thee Alone, O Christ, My Lord**

TLH 319  
Johannes Schneising



- In Thee alone, O Christ, my Lord,  
My hope on earth remaineth;  
I know Thou wilt Thine aid afford,  
Naught else my soul sustaineth.  
No strength of man, no earthly stay  
Can help me in the evil day;  
Thou, only Thou, canst aid supply.  
To Thee I cry;  
On Thee I bid my heart rely.
- O Lord, in mercy stay my heart  
On faith's most sure foundation  
And to my inmost soul impart  
Thy perfect consolation.  
Fill all my life with love to Thee,  
Toward all men grant me charity;  
And at the last, when comes my end,  
Thy succor send.  
From Satan's wiles my soul defend.



“Humble Love of Brothers in Faith”

**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: Humble Love of Brothers in Faith

The Lord promises that through His Word He will heal us, He will illuminate our dark lives, He will speak the one voice to lead us, He will send His holy angels to protect us, He will bring us to feast with Him at His table, He will keep us from stumbling and present us blameless in Christ, and, on the last day, He will call us from death to eternal life. Everything rests on God's Word. Everything needful is found there. And so long as we have God's Word, we have enough and everything needed for faith, for this life, and for eternal life.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:1-11 – A Sabbath Healing

"Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?" The Lord reminds us that if we live by the law we will die by the law. The law indeed is holy and righteous and good. It indeed points out our sin and points us to godly living. But it is nonetheless incapable of saving us. Because of our inability to keep it in its perfection, we cannot thereby attain its promises. Jesus, however, has kept the law for us. And through Him we are healed, every day, but especially on the Sabbath, when we come to the Lord's House and rest in Him and His forgiveness through His Word and His Gifts. *Blessed Lord, bless me each and every day with Your healing through Your Word and Gifts. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:129-136 (PE) – Illuminated Darkness

We are a people who dwell in darkness. We dwell in the darkness of our sin. We dwell in the darkness of a fallen creation. We dwell in the darkness of the shadow of death. Yet, in the midst of this deep darkness we have a light to guide our way through the gloom and into the brightness of the resurrection and eternal life. This light is the Lord's Word. As these words unfold in our ears and hearts and minds, our lives become illuminated by the Holy Spirit, and we are guided along the path of righteousness. Our steps are kept steady and our lives redeemed, until that great and glorious day when the Lord returns in the radiance of His glory. *Blessed Lord, guide me always by Your Word that I may attain the eternal light of the resurrection. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:1-6 – One Voice Among Many

Walk as you are called. Walk listening to the one voice of the one Lord Who has redeemed you in the one baptism to live according to the one faith. This is our Lord's exhortation to us in the midst of a world filled with many voices, many paths, many ways to live, many faiths. The devil desires to point us away from this one voice and one faith, just as He did to our first parents and just as he has continued to do throughout history to this day. But the devil, though his voice echoes through the world, still cannot speak louder than our Shepherd. The Holy Spirit speaks through our baptism that we belong to Christ, that His righteousness is ours, and that in Him God is our loving Father. *Lord, help me always to listen only to Your voice. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 18:1-11 – An Angelic Guard

The Lord promises that He will guard His dear children. He will protect them from the schemes and assaults of the devil and his angels. He will take them from this veil of sorrows to Himself and then raise them on the day of resurrection. And the chief way He protects our children and all Christians is through His Word. Jesus' words create and sustain our faith. We become like the children brought to Jesus, to whom He says belongs the kingdom of Heaven. But the Lord also appoints angels to guard us in this life. They are always at work keeping the forces of evil at bay, so that we, as much as possible, would lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness. So we pray: *"Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me." Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 2:18-28 – Feasting with the Bridegroom

"Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?" We have Jesus, our great bridegroom, with us in this life. He is especially present with us in the gathering of His church, where we are brought into the great foretaste of the wedding feast in His Sacrament. There He invites us to be guests at His table where He is both host and feast. There, He feeds us, not with the bread of the earth, but with the true bread come down from heaven. There, He gives us a preview of the unending feast which we will attend with Him in the resurrection. And so, we rejoice to feast, not fast, every time we gather with the Saints, as we look forward to the eternal banquet to come. *Lord Jesus, grant that I would always rejoice to be a guest at Your table. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Jude 20-25 – Not Left up to Us

Luther wrote a marvelous prayer which many pastors pray, known as the "sacristy prayer". One of the notes he makes is that "if everything were left up to me I would have ruined it long ago." And this is true for not just pastors called to shepherd the Lord's Church, but also all Christians. If it were left up to us we would be constantly stumbling. We would present ourselves before God with all the blame of our sin. But the Lord keeps us from stumbling into unbelief and He, by His blood, presents us to the Father as being blameless. In Him we are declared righteous, even as He is righteous. *Blessed Lord, keep me from stumbling into unbelief through the forgiveness of sins in Christ. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 56 – Unafraid of Man

"In God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?" We are always tempted to fear the retribution of man. There is temptation to fear our reputation, our property, our families, or our lives being taken from us. We fear the anger of our neighbor or coworker or family member. But David reminds us that our trust, being placed in God, means that we not only do not fear, but that man can, in fact, do nothing to us. The Lord has delivered our soul from death and we will walk before God in the light of life. We will, on the last day, be raised eternally with every good and perfect gift, with death defeated, and with the unending presence of God. *Lord, keep me from the fear of man, and help me ever to put my trust, fear, and love, only in You. Amen.*

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