

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 54:4-5, 1-3, 7**

Behold, God is my / helper;*
the Lord is with those who up- / hold my life.
He will repay my enemies for their / evil.*
Cut them off / in Your truth.
Save me, O God, / by Your name,*
and vindicate me / by Your strength.
Hear my / prayer, O God;*
give ear to the words / of my mouth.
For strangers have risen up a- / gainst me,*
they have not set God be- / fore them.
He has delivered me out of all / trouble;*
and my eye has seen its desire upon my / enemies.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 119:72**

“The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK

One Thing's Needful; Lord, This Treasure

TLH 366, LSB 536

Johann H. Schroeder



1. One thing's needful; Lord this treasure
Teach me highly to regard;
All else, though it first give pleasure,
Is a yoke that presses hard.
Beneath it the heart is still fretting and
striving,
No true, lasting happiness ever deriv-
ing.
The gain of this one thing all loss can
requite
And teach me in all things to find true
delight.

6. Wilt thou find this one thing needful,
Turn from all created things
Unto Jesus and be heedful
Of the blessed joy He brings.
For where God and Man both in one
are united,
With God's perfect fullness the heart is
delighted;
There, there is the worthiest lot and
the best,
My One and my All and my Joy and my
Rest.



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: Faithful Stewardship of Earthly Gifts

The master commended the steward's shrewdness in dealing with both his master's wealth and with those in the master's debt (Luke 16). Everything that we have comes from God's gracious hand. The Law demands that we love our neighbor, which means that He expects us to use these gifts in service to our neighbor. By God's grace, we have been given the greatest treasure in the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has set us free from bondage to unrighteous wealth that leads to death. In this way, He has made earthly wealth holy, that we might use it in service to the proclamation of the Gospel and the needs of our neighbor.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 16:1-9: The Merciful Master

The steward lost his job for wasting his master's possessions. But in the time left to him as one acting on behalf of the master, he shrewdly forgave some of what his master's debtors owed, realizing that this would enable him to avoid the pain of physical labor and the shame of begging. Those whose debts were now reduced would care for him. But he also knew that his master was merciful and would not go back on these arrangements. In the same way, you have a merciful God who has reduced the debt you owe to God to nothing, setting you free from the shame of sin and the pain of hell. *O God, by Your great mercy, welcome me into Your eternal dwelling, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:65-72 (TETH): The Goodness of Affliction

The Psalmist reminds us that suffering under the penalty of God's Law drives us to plead for His mercy. As we live a life of repentance and faith, God is continually calling us to the good works He has prepared for us according to our various vocations in life. At times, this may cause us to suffer. But there is great delight in doing God's will, even though our efforts are plagued with sin. This teaches us all the more of how good the Law of God truly is, so that we may be conformed to the image of His Son in our desire to keep it. *O God, teach me to fear, love, and trust in You above all things. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 10:6-13: Examples for Our Instruction

One of the uses of God's Word is to provide examples for us. Some examples show the wrath of God on the unrighteous, to teach us to fear the Lord and not do anything against His commandments. As those who live in the end of the ages, we ought to take heed, lest we fall away into sin and death. But some examples also show the faithfulness of God, who provides for us comfort in knowing that the temptations we face—regardless of what they are—are common. We are not alone in them. But He is also faithful in providing us a way of escape from temptation: His law to curb the wickedness of our flesh and His Gospel to restore us when we fall. *O God, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: 1 Chronicles 29:10-13: Riches and Honor

As King, David possessed great riches and honor. These were his through the conquest of his enemies. But Who was it that gave David these things? In this text, David teaches us to confess that everything we have according to the 1st Article of the Creed and the 4th Petition of the Lord's Prayer comes from God's hand. Everything in heaven and on earth—the cattle on a thousand hills—belongs to God. Thus, when we pray the 4th Petition, we are not reminding God that we are hungry, but asking that He would teach us to be mindful of His goodness toward us. *O God, teach us that our daily bread comes from You, that we might receive it with thanksgiving. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 12:32-48: Where Your Treasure Is

We guard and protect that which we treasure from being stolen. We work hard to maintain it and improve it, and perhaps put it on display for all to admire. Jesus warns us here of the great temptation that earthly wealth can be for fallen man. He calls us away from that kind of idolatry by reminding us that the Father has given us His kingdom. All that is God's is ours! That means that everything in heaven and on earth is ours, because of the Father's love toward us. We are called then to use the gifts God gives us not for selfish gain, but in order to provide for our neighbor at the proper time, as wise and faithful stewards of God's kingdom. *O God, make us wise stewards of Your gifts, that we may be unencumbered by them on the Last Day. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 2 Timothy 1:3-14: God's Word is our Great Heritage

St. Paul reminds us that the Word of God is a great treasure to be passed from one generation to the next, both by pastors, but also by faithful Christian parents and grandparents. This is especially important as we may be called upon to suffer for the confession of Christ's name. By handing on the heritage of God's Word, we are handing on the Word of eternal life—the precious Good News that Jesus Christ has abolished death forever. By holding to this sound pattern of words, we guard that deposit entrusted to us before the foundation of the world for ourselves and for generations to come. *Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 139: You Have Formed Me

Psalm 139 makes the beautiful confession that all life come from the Lord's hand. He is the one who knits children together in the wombs of their mothers. Children are a precious gift from God, and this intimate relationship God has with His creation knits us to Him. The Psalmist concludes at the end that the Lord's knowledge of us is what turns us from “any grievous way” to the “way everlasting.” Our earthly life, then, is an echo of the eternal life God gives to us in His Son, Jesus Christ. *O God, You have granted me the new birth from above by water and the Spirit. Root out of me all sins and evil desires, that I may walk on the path of life. Amen.*