

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 77:18, 84:1-2, 4, 10-11

The lightnings lit | up the world;\*  
the earth trem- | bled and shook.  
How lovely is Your tabernacle, O | Lord of hosts!\*  
My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts | of the Lord.  
Blessed are those who dwell | in Your house;\*  
they will still be | praising You.  
Behold, O | God our shield,\*  
and look upon the face of You're A- | nointed  
For the Lord God is a | sun and shield;\*  
the Lord will give grace and | glory.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Matthew 17:5

“And a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well please; listen to Him.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, who in the glorious transfiguration of Your only-begotten Son confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of the fathers and who, in the voice that came from the bright cloud, did in a wonderful manner foreshow the adoption of sons, mercifully make us co-heirs with the King of His glory and bring us to the enjoyment of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, 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  
How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

TLH 343, LSB 395  
Philipp Nicolai



1. How lovely shines the Morning Star!  
The nations see and hail afar  
The light in Judah shining.  
Thou David's Son of Jacob's race,  
My Bridegroom and my King of Grace,  
For Thee my heart is pining.  
Lowly, Holy,  
Great and glorious, Thou victorious  
Prince of graces,  
Filling all the heavenly places.

5. Thou, mighty Father, in Thy Son  
Didst love me ere Thou hadst begun  
This ancient world's foundation.  
Thy Son hath made a friend of me,  
And when in spirit Him I see,  
I joy in tribulation.  
What bliss Is this!  
He that liveth To me giveth  
Life forever;  
Nothing me from Him can sever.



“God Manifest in the Transfiguration of Jesus”

**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: God Manifest in the Transfiguration of Jesus**

We all love the Transfiguration. We get to see Jesus like we want to see Him: outside of His flesh, outside of the confines of this finite earthly tent in which we find ourselves. Peter, James, and John felt the same way. We all like a God that makes sense to us; and the Transfiguration, we think, makes sense. That is what God is supposed to look like. But we don't really understand it do we? The disciples didn't and we don't either. We want to see God's glory and so we pray that we are lifted up to that mountaintop experience. But that isn't where God displays His glory; not on that mountain, not in bright and magnificent light.

His ultimate glory is on a different hill, in darkness, and it is much more gruesome.

SUN

**SCRIPTURE: Matthew 17:1-9—Jesus Only**

God's heavenly glory is terrifying to the sinner. Our idea of experiencing God's glory is that He would take us up out of our flesh and bring us to a more "spiritual" oneness with Him. But that isn't good. In fact, that is the first temptation of the devil, when he convinced Adam and Eve that they could be more like God. So instead, God comes to us. And this isn't second-rate. This is the best that there is! God comes to the flesh and stays in the flesh; lives, dies, rises, and ascends in the flesh. For when God wants to be one with us, He doesn't make us more spiritual, He makes Himself more fleshy. Let us not try to break free from the bonds of humanness, for that would only be running away from what our Savior became. *Dearest Jesus, thank You for taking on our flesh. Amen.*

MON

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 87—Glorious Things Are Spoken**

What sort of glorious things are going to be spoken of? The Sons of Korah seem to know; and they would probably know better than most. They are descendants of Levi, temple musicians. They know the things of God; and so we listen to them sing. "This one's born there." Where? There, in Cush and Tyre, Babylon and Philistia too. And certainly, of course, at Zion as well. This particular believer by faith, and that one over there, and the one standing next to him; they are all born in different places, with different sounding names, and different looking features, but the Lord has registered them all in His records. They are all His people, every last one of them. And it doesn't matter where they came from. The glorious things that are spoken of the city of God is that it is for all people. *Gracious God, thank You for the salvation of all people, no matter their race. Amen.*

TUE

**SCRIPTURE: 2 Peter 1:16-21—Eyewitnesses**

Peter touts the fact that he was an eyewitness; surely of the crucifixion and resurrection, but here, specifically, the Transfiguration. He does this as a sort of apologetic, but what we believe we have not made up. These things told and taught and preached about Jesus are not cleverly devised myths. We have multiple eyewitness accounts of these things; which is more to say than any other religion in the world. But on top of that, these eyewitness are not just speaking a simple history, although their words are historical, but they are speaking Scripture. And the prophecy of Scripture is not produced by some man; Peter is no Joseph Smith. Instead, it is the Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit and written down for all people to hear through the pen of these eyewitnesses. *Holy Spirit, thank You for leading Your prophets to speak Your Word for our benefit. Amen.*

WED

**SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:10, 11—Jesus' Righteousness**

Jesus reads Isaiah 61 in the synagogue in Nazareth. It almost gets Him killed. He declares that He has come to bind up the brokenhearted and to proclaim liberty to the captives: That's us. He has come to save you! And because of this, we rejoice in the Lord. He has clothed us with the garments of salvation and has covered us with the robe of righteousness: That's your baptism. This great Bridegroom of ours comes to us, His sinful bride, and declares us righteous and clean in His sight. The people of Nazareth tried to throw Him off a cliff but failed. Instead, Jesus passes through their midst and makes His way to the cross, so that He can wash us clean in that bloody water that flowed from His side. *Jesus, clothe me with salvation. Amen.*

THU

**SCRIPTURE: Matthew 11:25-27—Revealed to Children**

The things of salvation can never be known by the wise of this world. God uses the foolish things of this world to confound the wise (1 Corinthians 1:27). Reason cannot carry you to the cross. Our minds cannot get us to the boundless love and mercy of God. No one could logically work through the mysteries that surround the faith. In Matthew 11:25, Jesus thanks His Father for this. The mysteries of salvation are hidden from the wise and revealed to the children. The wise are confounded, the simple are given the treasures of the kingdom of heaven. We are the simple, the child-like, and there is nothing better to be. *Jesus Christ the Son, thank You for revealing the Father to me. Amen.*

FRI

**SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 4:5, 6—Creation and Salvation**

Paul makes sure that we all know that the ministry is not for personal gain. Paul and the other apostles do not serve themselves. They get no fancy houses or bursting bank accounts. They are servants; and servants of Jesus sent to serve His people. Jesus, the Son of God, God in the flesh, who created all things and brought forth light out of the darkness, He is the One who brings forth the light of the knowledge of salvation. He is One with the Father and the Holy Spirit, and the One Who creates and saves and sanctifies us all. And, amazingly, even He came not be served but to serve. The God of all things came to serve His creation. Paul is the servant of the Suffering Servant; who serves you God's life-giving Word. *God, let light shine out of darkness. Amen.*

SAT

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 8—All Things Under Foot**

How majestic is this God of ours? He is the One who has created everything; the glories of the heavens, the moon and stars and all creation. He is quite amazing and quite above us all. And yet, simple babies and infants declare His praises. The smallest and lowliest among us can also sing the greatness of our God. But His greatness is that while He is high above us, He also became one of us. As Paul tells us in Ephesians, all things are placed under the fleshy feet of Jesus. The majesty of God is not that He is so far removed from us in such great and awesome ways, but that He has made us to be just like Him, or instead, made Him to be just like us and then crowned us with the heavenly glories that should only be His. *O Lord, how majestic is Your name! Amen.*

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