

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 44:23, 25-26, 1-3, 7-8**

Awake! Why do You | sleep, O Lord? *
Arise! Do not cast us off for- | ever.
For our soul is bowed down | to the dust; *
arise for our help and re- | deem us.
We have heard with our | ears, O God, *
our fathers have told us the deeds You did in | days of old:
You drove out the nations | with Your hand, *
but you planted our fathers because you | favored them.
You have saved us from our | enemies, *
and have put to shame those who | hated us.
In God we boast | all day long, *
and praise Your name for- | ever.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **2 Timothy 4:3**

“All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” 2 Timothy 4:3

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, because You know that we dare not put our trust in anything that we do, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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
May God Bestow on Us His Grace

TLH 500, LSB 823
Martin Luther



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| <p>1. May God bestow on us His grace,
With blessings rich provide us,
And may the brightness of His face
To life eternal guide us
That we His saving health may know,
His gracious will and pleasure,
And also to the heathen show
Christ's riches without measure
And unto God convert them.</p> | <p>2. Thine over all shall be the praise
And thanks of every nation,
And all the world with joy shall raise
The voice of exultation;
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord,
Nor suffer sin to flourish;
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word
Their souls to feed and nourish,
In righteous paths to keep them.</p> |
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“The Lord’s Call to Faith by His Word”

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.

Around the Word Devotions + the week of February 24-March 2, 2019

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Lord's Call to Faith by His Word

The Lord speaks and we listen. This is the way of faith. To put our trust in words other than what our Lord has given to us, or to add to God's Word things He has not said is to have a different god. The promises of God are sure even as His Word is sure, and in His mercy He has given us that Word in His Holy Scriptures - The Bible. Even as our God gave Moses the tablets on Sinai written with His own finger, so it is that He has given to us the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures, so that we would hear what He has to say to us, believe in Christ, and have life in His name.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 11:25-30 – Being a Child of God

Our Lord loves children. He pointed to a child as the greatest in the kingdom of heaven, put His hands upon them and blessed them. Here our Lord thanks the Father that He has revealed Himself to little children and has hidden Himself from the so-called wise of this world. The wisdom of this world is truly folly, and the foolishness of the cross is the power of God. How does a loving father speak to his children? With words. Clear and true words. The faith of a child trusts the word of his father. The Christian trusts the sure Word of God. *Lord, make me a child of Your kingdom and fill my ears with Your Word and promises. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 24 – The Earth belongs to the King of Glory

The Lord God spoke the world into existence. He used his Word, the divine Son, to do so. The world and all that is in it belongs to Him, for He made it. And yet, the Lord does not spurn to come and identify with His creation, He who made the seas and established the rivers, also assumes creation in the enfleshment of the divine Word in Jesus Christ. The King of Glory, the Lord of Hosts, has come in. He is with us. Emmanuel. And so we praise Him. *King of Glory, You were lifted up in glory on the tree for us. Bring us to Your final glory in heaven. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 11:19-12:9 – The Eyes of Faith

What our natural eyes see is only meaningless hardship and suffering. The eyes of faith, trusting in the promises of Christ, sees the hand of God even in the midst of things we do not understand. In this way St. Paul is able to boast of his weaknesses, his persecution, his suffering - for in his weakness he is strong in the Lord. The power of Christ is one's only power and confidence, and not one's success, prestige, or piety. Whether we have joy or sorrow, we are the Lord's, and the Lord does not break His promises. *Lord, help me to see Your gracious work-ings in the things that I do not understand. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 55:10-13 – God's Effective Word

God makes things. He makes good things. He sends rain from heaven to water the earth, making all manner of food for man and beast. But He also rains down His Word. And what does the Word do? It makes things too! It washes hearts clean in Holy Baptism. It enters ears and takes root in us through preaching and meditation on the Word. It hides Body and Blood in mere bread and wine. God's Word does what it says. God wants His Word preached and heard - for to these He has bound Himself that you would know Him, and that by believing you would have life in His Name. *Lord Jesus, Word of God, rain down Your Word upon us always. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 4:26-32 – The Mystery of the Word

Harvest time comes after months of waiting. Trees are not grown overnight. So it is with the Kingdom of God. We look at small, inconspicuous seeds and deem them nothing. Yet in them is power to become mighty things. For now, the Lord has given us His word, His Scriptures, which seem small and inconspicuous, deemed as nothing by the world. Yet in them is the power of God. The Kingdom is among us and we have it by faith, hidden from sight. The fullness of the Kingdom is yet to come visibly - a harvest, a separation, and a Feast. *Lord Jesus, keep us steadfast in Your Word until that time where we feast in Your kingdom. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 2 Timothy 3:10-4:5 – The God-Breathed Word

God breathed on Adam and he came alive. So it is that the Holy Scriptures, breathed out by God make men alive in the Spirit. By hearing them, our faith is created and strengthened. The prophetic and apostolic writings of the Holy Scripture are God's authoritative Word to us. They are "God-breathed!" Why would we need anything else? A pope? A council? A gut-feeling? These come and go, subject to all manner of confusion and error. But the Word of the Lord endures forever. To trust God's Word alone is to trust alone in God. *Lord God, I praise You for the gift of Your Scriptures to us. Open my ears to hear them. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 25 – Teach Me Your Paths

God is good. We are not. But the Lord is mercy and shows forgiveness to us, His wayward children. This is the consistent Law and Gospel refrain from the Psalter, especially here in Psalm 25. Knowing his sin and guilt, King David nevertheless has boldness and faith to confess his sin to God and relies on His mercy to redeem him from his troubles. It is the cry of faith which asks God not only to forgive, but to bring us to remembrance of His ways and to teach us His paths. This is the justifying faith which rests and waits in the Lord. *Lord, I know that I can come to You with anything. Forgive me my sins and teach me Your ways. Amen.*

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