

## 5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 97:6,9, 1, 10-12

The heavens declare His | righteousness,\*  
 and all the peoples see His | glory.  
 For You, Lord, are most high above | all the earth;\*  
 You are exalted far a- | bove all gods  
 The Lord reigns; let the | earth rejoice;\*  
 let the multitude of | isles be glad!  
 He preserves the souls | of His saints;\*  
 He delivers them out of the hand of the | wicked.  
 Light is sown for the | righteous,\*  
 and gladness for the up- | right in heart.  
 Rejoice in the Lord, you | righteous,\*  
 And give thanks at the remembrance of His | holy name.

## 6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Isaiah 53:5

“But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed.”

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

## 8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Your hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who 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 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

TLH 512, LSB 839  
 Johann Herrmann



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| <p>1. O Christ, our true and only Light,<br/>       Enlighten those who sit in night;<br/>       Let those afar now hear Thy voice<br/>       And in Thy fold with us rejoice.</p> <p>3. Oh, gently call those gone astray<br/>       That they may find the saving way!<br/>       Let every conscience sore oppress<br/>       In Thee find peace and heavenly rest.</p> | <p>5. Shine on the darkened and the cold,<br/>       Recall the wanderers to Thy fold,<br/>       Unite all those who walk apart,<br/>       Confirm the weak and doubting heart,</p> <p>6. So they with us may evermore<br/>       Such grace with wondering thanks<br/>       adore<br/>       And endless praise to Thee be given<br/>       By all Thy Church in earth and heaven.</p> |
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## “God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Heal”

**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 January 26-February 1, 2020

## THEME OF THE WEEK: God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Heal

Sickness bears witness to God's wrath against sin. Broken bones, cancer, and the flu aren't accidental consequences of living in an indifferent universe. They're evidence of what St. Paul calls creation's "bondage to corruption" (Romans 8:21). In other words, our world unravels into death because of man's rebellion against God (Romans 5:12). Jesus stops the decline into decay. By healing the sick, He's proving that in His person and through His works, death's day is done. He suffers our condemnation unto death on the cross and in return gives us the Father's blessing. His resurrection snatches despair from our hearts and gives us hope.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 8:1-13 "Seeing Jesus by Faith"

Was Jesus just another prophet or something more? His authority was unlike anything the crowds ever heard before. The leper saw the truth. Or rather Jesus' Word had made a home in his heart and opened the eyes of faith. This man is God in the flesh! He didn't ask Jesus to petition God's favor on his behalf. Instead he offered his prayer directly to Jesus as his God. His faith didn't fail him. Jesus healed him according to his divine authority and will. This is true, saving faith that sees past the limitations of human eyes. By the illumination of the Holy Spirit, this faith grasps the Savior by trusting in His Word. *Merciful Savior, grant me the Holy Spirit to see You as my true Lord and God who saves me from every evil of body and soul. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 15 "Who Shall Dwell on Your Holy Hill?"

David asks the question, 'Who has the right to live with God without fear of judgement and wrath?' The saintly portrait he paints is too high for our flesh to attain. The man must be perfect as the heavenly Father is perfect. The man must be holy, without the taint of corruption. David isn't setting a moralistic ideal before us, to encourage us to try our best but not to worry too much if we don't make it. Either you're perfect or you're under judgment. Only Christ's imputed righteousness grants us to read this psalm with joy. "For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21). *I praise You, Jesus, for righteousness I possess by faith. Grant me also to grow in holiness daily. Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:16-21b "Christians Are Different"

Christians act strangely to the world's eyes. They're harmonious with their neighbors. Yes, 'neighbors' includes family. Christians don't distinguish between persons. They associate and commune with the lowly, calling them brothers. It's one thing to get along with friends. It's another thing to love your enemies. If there's a golden rule that the devil puts forward against Christ's it's, 'Your anger is justified. You deserve to get even.' You know better. Jesus has put an end to God's wrath against your sin. What can sin, yours or anybody else's, do to you? That's why you never avenge yourself. You bless when you're cursed. You feed your enemy and give him drink. You overcome evil with good. *Grant me a generous heart, O Lord. Amen.*

WED

### SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 33:6-9 "Sin's Consequence and Healing in the Heavenly City"

Anyone who makes a habit of sin should expect to pay a price. Parents and government don't wield the switch or sword in vain (Proverbs 13:24; Romans 13:4). On this earth, their authority of the law is supreme. If you know and feel the everyday punishments for your sins, hear God's heavenly promise. "I will cleanse them from all their guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me." This hope for people who've been broken by their sins, who've lost friends, wrecked their health, and been thrown in prison. The Lord forgives. Though your body suffers consequences on earth, the Lord heals in the resurrection. *O Lord, teach me to desire the fulfillment of my faith and to hope for the life to come. Amen.*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: Luke 17:5-10 "Forgiveness, Faith, and the Ministry"

Pastors speak God's forgiveness to sinners. They give us the gift of heaven which Jesus purchased and won through His blood. Speaking forgiveness to a penitent sinner is a joy. But imagine forgiving him the thirtieth time for the same sin, despite hours of counsel and conversation. Human strength can't do it. Our hearts grow cold and callused. That's why the disciple's say, "Increase our faith!" It's a good prayer. It asks for the good conscience necessary to deal as mercifully with sinners as Jesus has dealt with us and our sins. Jesus assures them, "What I've given you is enough. Your faith seems small and inconsequential, but it can do what men find impossible. *We are unworthy servants, O Lord, we have only done what was our duty. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 11:1-16 "What the Old Testament Teaches About Faith"

A friend of mine calls this the Old Testament's 'hall of fame' of faith. Sounds good. First, we hear about what faith is. It's not a feeling, but a conviction. It's having confidence that God's promises, which we hear and trust without sight, are true. This faith is our saving gift from God, and it comes through the Word alone, whether it be preached or administered through baptism. As the Word and faith are our saving heritage, so it was for all the Old Testament saints. They didn't belong to a strange and primitive religion. They belonged to the religion that bestows righteousness by a promise for Christ's sake. As they journeyed toward the heavenly country, let's follow their Christian example. *Grant me steadfastness of faith, heavenly Father. Amen.*

SAT

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 33 "The Lord Preserves the Faithful"

This is a perfect psalm to read and pray when you've been both spiritually and bodily attacked. The devil wants you to think that in your pain and hurt that God is very far away, that He's either forgotten about you or doesn't care. What lies! Though the saints suffer every calamity, though the world and devils mock their faith, the Lord preserves the faithful. He is a rock of refuge in every storm. He is the Redeemer from sin and every evil. He is faithful to His promises, even if His deliverance seems slow in coming. Our times are in His hand. For Christ's sake He shines His face on His servants through His Word. Soon He will let it shine with the light and glory of resurrection. *O Lord, let me not be put to shame, for I call upon You. Amen.*

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