

“God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 66:4, 92:1; 66:1-5, 20**

All the earth shall | worship You,*
and sing praises to | You, O God.
They shall sing praises | to Your name;*
to Your name, | O Most High.
Make a joyful shout to God, | all the earth!*
Sing out the honor of His name; make His praise | glorious.
Say to God, “How awesome | are Your works!”
All the earth shall sing prais- | es to You.”
Come and see the | works of God:*
He is awesome in His doing toward the | sons of men.
Blessed be God, who has not turned a- | way my prayer,*
nor His mercy | from me!

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **John 1:3**

“All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, Governor of all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear the supplications of Your people and grant us Your peace in our time; 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
Of the Father’s Love Begotten

TLH 98, LSB 384
Aurelius C. Prudentius



1. Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

3. O ye heights of heaven, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him
And extol our God and King,
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

4. This is He whom Heaven-taught singers
Sang of old with one accord;
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the Long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore.

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 Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create

The first sign Jesus did at Cana in Galilee manifested His divine glory. The disciples saw and believed. This week we meditate on the power of Jesus to create, sustain, and redeem the world. He turns water into wine, not as an alchemist who dabbles in elemental magic, nor as a magician who performs an illusion or trick. Jesus creates by an act of His immutable and divine will. He creates according to the power He has possessed from before the foundations of the earth were laid. In the flesh, Jesus manifests Himself as true God, the same God who creates, sustains, and redeems the world according to His gracious purpose and love.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 2:1-11 "Jesus Redeems the Holy Estate of Marriage"

The devil wants you to think that unbinding yourself from earthy fetters is the height of spiritual discipline. Against marriage he lies, "Two people bound together for life for the purpose of having babies? Hasn't sin so wrecked it to the point that it does more harm than good?" Ignore the devil. See how Jesus blesses the wedding at Cana with wine. This means it's both pleasing to Him and holy. Despite sin's corruption and the devil's attack, Jesus fights for His creation. He dies for it to buy it back with His precious blood. Praise God! Husbands and wives, take heart. Jesus blesses your marriage too. He's bound you together. He will fight for you. *Dear Lord, grant that I honor the estate of marriage by faith in Jesus' promise and a chaste life. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 14 "The Folly of the Atheist and the Generation of the Righteous"

The rational arguments against God's existence are weak. No amount of naturalistic theorizing can ever rob creation of its design, beauty, and the conclusion that all of it must have come from God. There's no excuse. "For His invisible attributes, namely, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made" (Romans 1:20). And yet the atheists scoff. The wise men of our age turn up their noses. Men boast in their sins. Their days are numbered. The generation, or time, of the righteous has come in our Savior Jesus "who become to us wisdom from God, righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (1 Corinthians 1:30). *Be my refuge and salvation, O Lord. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:6-16a "Varieties of Service, Unity in Love"

There are many stations in life. Some are born to be sons, while others are born to be daughters. Some are given the office of parent, and others the office of ruler. Some are given to preach, and others to be blessed by hearing. Whatever your office, whatever station God has given you, "Let love be genuine." Love your parents as you've learned love your heavenly Father through Christ. Forgive, as you've been forgiven for Christ's sake. "Bless those who persecute you." When you are sinned against, be patient. Pray. The Lord has given you His Spirit. As Jesus lowered Himself into the pains of death to save us, so we can lower ourselves from pride and conceit to love the lowly, the children, and the aged. *Grant me a heart to love, O Lord. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 18:15-19 "A Prophet Like Moses"

In the Old Testament, Jesus is called the Seed (Genesis 3:15), the Star (Numbers 24:17), a King from David's line, (2 Samuel 7:14), and Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14). He is the Good Shepherd (Ezekiel 34:23) and the Shoot that springs from the stump of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1). None of the promises speak more to Jesus' preaching ministry than Moses' Deuteronomy 18 prophesy. Without preaching there is no Gospel and Jesus is the preacher par excellence. The Word didn't have to come from outside Himself. He is the Word made flesh. To prove Jesus' fulfillment of this passage, at the transfiguration the Father says, "Listen to Him" What do we hear? Repentance and faith, that you are saved by His works and His blood. *Grant me faith to hear and believe Your Word, O Lord.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:1-10 "What is the Gospel?"

The Gospel is often confused with well wishing, good thoughts, and the love you need to show others in your life. None of that's right. Consider Zacchaeus. He was a scoundrel, albeit a short one. He cheated, defrauded, and scammed his way through life. He left a wake of ruined families behind him. But then Jesus spotted him. Everything changed, not because Zacchaeus decided to get his life in order, but because Jesus chose him to be saved. That's the Gospel. Thanks be to God. When our sins oppress us, when the flesh drags us down, and the devil won't leave us alone, our Lord makes us remember His promise, "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." *Grant me faith to receive Jesus' mercy, O Lord. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 19:27-30 "An Inheritance in Heaven"

Confessing the faith sets us at odds with the people we love. Not everyone thinks that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. Not everyone desires baptism, repentance, and the forgiveness of sins. No matter how kind you try to be, no matter how gentle you are, your repentance will be taken as an attack on your friends who think they don't need mercy. Making a distinction between sin and righteousness won't be loved by this lawless world. Relationships crumble. Friends from a past life drift away. Even brothers, sisters, fathers, and mothers turn their backs. Today, Jesus comforts you. All that you've lost in this life, on Christ's account, you will gain back a hundredfold. You will inherit eternal life. *Lord, grant me courage to be steadfast in faith. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 16 "Christ's Confidence and Joy"

As Christ hung lifelessly from the tree, no one suspected the joy set before Him. Jesus knew it. The payment of divine blood was rendered. God's justice was satisfied. From that point forward, there would only be victory and life. Jesus' delight is in those who will be washed by His blood through faith. They are the excellent ones. When Jesus commended Himself to the Father, He knew that His righteousness far exceeded what He Himself required. It had gained Him a kingdom, the beautiful inheritance of the gentiles who would run to their God for His mercy. Christ's flesh dwelt securely. The tomb was but a brief rest. "For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol or let Your holy one see corruption." *I give thanks to You, O Christ, for Your resurrection. Amen.*

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