



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 31:2-3, 1, 5, 9, 16

Be my rock of refuge, a fortress of defense to | save me.\*  
 For You are my rock and my | fortress.  
 Therefore, for Your | name’s sake,\*  
 lead me and | guide me.  
 In You, O Lord, I put my trust; let me never | be ashamed;\*  
 deliver me in Your | righteousness.  
 Into Your hand I commit my | spirit;\*  
 You have redeemed me, O Lord | God of truth.  
 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in | trouble;\*  
 my eye wastes a- | way with grief.  
 Make Your face shine upon Your | servant;\*  
 save me for Your | mercies’ sake.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK 1 Peter 3:18-22

“Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, we implore You, mercifully hear our prayers, and, having set us free from the bonds of sin, defend us from all evil; for You live and reign with the Father 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  
**Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus**

TLH 409, LSB 685  
 Sigismund von Birken



1. Let us ever walk with Jesus  
 Follow His example pure,  
 Flee the world, which would deceive us  
 And to sin our souls allure.  
 Ever in His footsteps treading,  
 Body here, yet soul above,  
 Full of faith and hope and love,  
 Let us do the Father’s bidding.  
 Faithful Lord, abide with me:  
 Savior, lead, I follow Thee.

2. Let us suffer here with Jesus,  
 To His image, e’er conform:  
 Heaven’s glory soon will please us,  
 Sunshine follow on the storm.  
 Though we sow in tears of sorrow,

We shall reap with heavenly joy;  
 And the fears that now annoy  
 Shall be laughter on the morrow.  
 Christ, I suffer here with Thee:  
 There, oh, share Thy joy with me!

4. Let us gladly live with Jesus:  
 Since He’s risen from the dead,  
 Death and grave must soon release us.  
 Jesus, Thou art now our Head,  
 We are truly Thine own members;  
 Where Thou livest, there live we.  
 Take and own us constantly,  
 Faithful Friend, as Thy dear brethren.  
 Jesus, here I live to Thee,  
 Also there eternally.

**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 March 3-9, 2019

### THEME OF THE WEEK: The Lord's Call to Follow Him

Pre-Lent is drawing quickly to an end. Lent and Holy Week are coming down the tracks where we rejoice in Jesus, Who is lifted up drawing all men to Himself upon the cross where the righteous dies for the unrighteous. We follow Him during Lent, we take a few moments of quiet contemplation and introspection. Our introspection reflects our sinfully blind eyes, which we pray will be opened. We begin our fast from physical food to feast upon the food of God's Word which satisfies eternally. We gather in more worship in the Lord's house where we rejoice to be. There, His presence and glory are present for us in the Love of God, made flesh in Jesus and washed upon us in Baptism.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Luke 18:31-43 Lord, Open our Eyes

Jesus predicts His death for the third time, then behold, there is a man who is physically blind. He prayed for mercy from Jesus. "Lord, have mercy!" The disciples, on the other hand, were spiritually blind. They needed to see this exchange take place. One day their eyes will also be opened to see why Jesus must go to Jerusalem. The Holy Spirit will bring to their remembrance everything Jesus told them. Our eyes have been opened and we rejoice in our salvation of Jesus, Who dies on the cross as taught by those disciples. *Lord, we pray You to keep our eyes open to see why Jesus went to Jerusalem for us. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 26 We Confess our Sins

Like us, the psalmist is a sinner. Praying his words, we learn to confess that we need mercy. We need saving from the enemies that pursue us. We cannot save ourselves. We need to keep God's love ever before our faces. We confess that we love where God dwells and plead for God's mercy when dealing with Him. Every Divine Service we begin with confessing our sins and plead for redemption. And that is why Jesus came. To be our redemption and salvation and the receivers of His wondrous deeds. *Lord, have mercy on us who love Your house where Your glory dwells. Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 True Love

Paul shows us that love, true love, is active. It is more than just emotional reactions in our heart or chemical reactions in our brains. Love is the greatest gift that we have from God Who is Love. Love fulfills the Law. Love is why Jesus was born, died, and rose again. Without love, nothing has value or meaning, even those gifts listed by Paul. Without love, we gain nothing in our faithful enduring. One day, on account of God's love for us in Christ Jesus, we will fully see God face to face and know Him as He knows us. *Lord, help us to love one another as You love us. Amen.*

WED

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:16-21 Fasting

Fasting during Lent is a bodily prayer offered to the Holy Trinity, God alone truly fulfills our hunger pangs. Unlike bread that satisfies for a time, God's Word satisfies forever. In freedom, one who fasts does so to spend more time in the study of Scripture. When fasting is done, it's not to impress God or to win His favor. Instead, it's to be drawn closer to Him, Who went the way of Calvary in a Good Friday Death and Easter Resurrection for us. *Lord, help us to fast so that we may remember that You provide us with everything for our bodies and souls. Amen*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: John 12:23-36 Good Friday Death

"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." John tells us that was to show us by what type of death Jesus was going to die. His Good Friday Cross Death is a divine necessity for our salvation. Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins. The animal sacrifices of the Old Testament were all a foreshadowing of this. Jesus' death forgives all sins so that we may be raised in bodies that are as imperishable and undefiled as His body is. *Lord, draw us and keep us close to Your Son, our salvation. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 3:18-22 Baptism Now Saves You

Jesus is given to us in Baptism. In Him, the sins of the world were paid for in bitter sufferings and death on His Good Friday cross. And, to top it off, Jesus rose from the dead. Doing so, Jesus won forgiveness for us. That forgiveness from Jesus is given to us in the waters and Word of Baptism. And just as Noah and His family were saved by God from the sinful world, we are saved from the devil, world, and our sinful flesh in Baptism. Baptism is all about Jesus for us. *Lord, help us to daily repent and receive the forgiveness of sins washed upon us in Baptism. Amen.*

SAT

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 27 Dwell in the House of the Lord

Enemies are encamped around the Psalmist. What is the Psalmist's response? He just wants to dwell in the House of the Lord all the days of his life. Why is that so important? It's because Jesus has promised to be in the House of the Lord for us Christians. He is present in His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. He is present in His gifts of joyfully hearing the Word of God proclaimed and received in the Sacraments. Nothing is more precious for us than to be in the House of the Lord, which is a foreshadowing of our resurrected worship and life. *Lord, help us honor Your house and rejoice in it. Amen.*

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