

5

PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 98:1-2, 3-4

Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Alle- | luia!*
His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations. Alle- |
luia
His right hand and His | holy arm*
have gained Him the | victory.
He has remembered His | mercy*
and His faithfulness to the house of | Israel.
All the ends | of the earth*
have seen the salvation | of our God.
Shout joyfully to the Lord, | all the earth;*

6

SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Isaiah 12:2

“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.”

7

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

8

PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Our merciful Father, the God who alone make minds of the faithful to be of one will, cause Your people to love what You command and to desire what You promise, that among the manifold changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

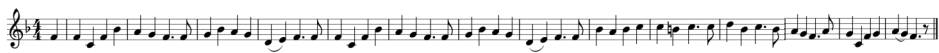
9

PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10

**SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice**

TLH 387, LSB 556
Martin Luther



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| <p>1. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing,
And, with united heart and voice
And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God hath done,
How His right arm the victory won;
Right dearly it hath cost Him.</p> | <p>4. But God beheld my wretched state
Before the world's foundation,
And, mindful of His mercies great,
He planned my soul's salvation.
A father's heart He turned to me,
Sought my redemption fervently:
He gave His dearest Treasure.</p> |
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“He is Risen to Proclaim the Truth”

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 May 14-20, 2017

THEME OF THE WEEK: He is Risen to Proclaim the Truth

Jesus went to the cross for you. Jesus rose from the dead for you. The for you is everything. If this is for you, it cannot be stuck back in time 2000 years before you were born. It must be brought forward. It must be something delivered to you. Forty days after Jesus rose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sent the Holy Spirit to bring us everything won upon the cross. We can talk about Jesus' death and resurrection as something that helps us here and now because Jesus went away and sent the Helper. We find the cross and empty tomb in Word and Sacraments. There Jesus is for you.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 16:5-15 The God we need goes away.

Christ is risen. The kind of god we want does not go away. He "walks with me and he talks with me" and gives me stuff, the stuff I want. He explains how nothing is my fault. The kind of god we want is always here, but the kind of God we need will go unseen when we want to see Him most. He won't be a butler. He'll be a savior. He goes away to the cross for you. He rises from the dead. He returns to the Father. He sends the Holy Spirit to bring every gift He's won. Forgiveness, life, and salvation. This is the true God, our Jesus.

Lord Jesus Christ, send forth the Holy Spirit to deliver Your gifts to us in Word and Sacrament that even though you have gone away, we may be brought to you. Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 82 Justice is not fairness, but love.

Look around. It's unfair here. Good deeds go unrewarded. Sinners go unpunished. The weak are trampled. We pray for a reckoning, but God does not give justice the way we expect. He does not take from the rich and give to the poor. He does not punish the sinners for their crimes. Justice is found in the cross. He Himself bore the punishment for all to rescue sinners who only deserve punishment. Rich and poor all die, but God judges in mercy, forgiving sinners, and raising us up even as He rises from the dead.

Lord God heavenly Father deal with us in justice according to the cross of Christ, forgiving our sins and rescuing the needy alike. Amen.

TUE

SCRIPTURE: James 1:16-21 The anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord speaks about forgiveness for sinners. The greatest gift of God is salvation for us. Righteousness does not come from seeing others punished. It comes from Christ dying for all of us. The anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. The cross of Christ does. Look at your neighbor in light of this good gift of God. They are a sinner Jesus died for. Put anger on the cross where it belongs and call it finished like God does.

Lord Jesus Christ, who bore the sins of us all, calm our anger by showing us the wounds You bore for our iniquities and bring us Your peace. Amen.

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 12:1-6 : Angry No More

God does not ignore our sin. He cannot simply do away with the anger He has when He sees what we do against Him, to each other, and to ourselves. So He turns His anger away. He hangs it on the cross, so that He may comfort us sinners. Washed in the water from the wells of salvation, He opens our lips to shout forth His praise. Christianity does not ignore God's anger. It sees it hung on the cross and finds comfort in a God who insists on being our Savior, our Strength, and our Song.

Lord God Heavenly Father, grant us confidence to approach Your throne washed clean in the assurance of the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 8:21-36 Slaves set free

Anyone who commits a sin is a slave to sin. You hear it when you can't go anywhere without being called names because of what you did. You feel it when you can't look in the mirror because of what you see. You acknowledge it when you can't describe yourself without balancing your accomplishments and failures on a lopsided hill hoping nobody notices. Sin becomes our identity. The Son sets us free. He is lifted up on the cross to be punished by everything that owns us. He buys us back from sin and sets us free.

Lord Jesus Christ, You were sent by the Father to win for us life. Grant that we may be known by Your cross in the waters of our baptism. Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 Blame Jesus.

It's Jesus' fault. Sounds kind of sacrilege, but He who knew no sin became sin so we could say that. Everything we've ever done is piled on Jesus. He is accounted a sinner so that we might be accounted righteous. He became our sin, and He was punished as sin. It is finished. The old has passed away. That flesh has been crucified. The new has come. We are a new creation, reconciled to God. We are baptized, born again of water and Spirit. We are known by the cross of Christ. We are forgiven sinners. The call God makes to all the world is see on Jesus our sin, and in His our righteousness. Be forgiven.

Lord Jesus Christ, Thank You for becoming our sin and bearing it unto death that we might rise a new creation. Amen.

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 126: The Joy of Zion

Rejoice O Zion, for your Lord has done great things for you. He has taken on human flesh for you to walk the weeping path to Jerusalem. He is the seed that falls to the earth and dies, and gives new life with shouts of joy. He has born the tears of the cross that we may shout with the joy of the resurrection. He gathers us as sheaves and bears us home. Rejoice, O Zion, for your Lord was crucified and raised for you to win for you the kingdom and restore you with living waters. *Lord Jesus Christ, grant to us tongues that shout for joy at Your Easter victory of death and grave. Gather as Your own and bring us unto our own resurrection and life everlasting. Amen.*