

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Isaiah 40:20, Psalm 66:1, 17, 19-20**

With a voice of singing, declare, proclaim this, utter it to the end of the earth. Alle- | luia.*

The Lord has redeemed His servant Jacob! Alle- | luia.
Make a joyful shout to God, | all the earth!*

Sing out the honor | of His name.
I cried to Him | with my mouth,*
and He was extolled | with my tongue.
Certainly God has | heard me;*

He has attended to the voice | of my prayer.
Blessed be God, who has not turned a- | way my prayer,*
nor His mer- | cy from me!

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 124:8**

“Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God our Father, from whom all good things do come, grant to us, Your humble servants, that by Your holy inspiration we may think those things that be right and by Your merciful guiding may perform them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior, 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
Our Father, Thou in Heaven Above

TLH 458, LSB 766
Martin Luther



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| <p>1. Our Father, Thou in heaven above,
Who biddest us to dwell in love,
As brethren of one family,
To cry in every need to Thee,
Teach us no thoughtless word to say,
But from our inmost heart to pray.</p> <p>2. Thy name be hallowed. Help us, Lord,
In purity to keep Thy Word,
That to the glory of thy name
We walk before Thee free from blame.
Let no false doctrine us pervert;
All poor, deluded souls convert.</p> | <p>8. From evil, Lord, deliver us;
The times and days are perilous.
Redeem us from eternal death,
And when we yield our dying breath,
Console us, grant us calm release,
And take our souls to Thee in peace.</p> <p>9. Amen, that is, So shall it be.
Confirm our faith and hope in Thee
That we may doubt not, but believe
What here we ask we shall receive.
Thus in Thy name and at Thy word
We say: Amen. Oh, hear us, Lord!
Amen.</p> |
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Around the Word Devotions + May 21-27, 2017
Brought to you by **Worldview Everlasting**

“He Is Risen to Carry the Prayers of Believers to God”

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: He Is Risen to Carry the Prayers of Believers to God

“Jesus Lives! The victory’s won! Death no longer can appall me; Jesus Lives! Death’s reign is done! From the grave will Christ recall me. Brighter scenes will then commence; this shall be my confidence.” (LSB 490 stanza 1) This is the reality of Christ’s victory over the grave for us, yet life often times looks nothing like victory. The distractions of life are often discouraging and we seek comfort, security and encouragement from sources that are not capable of delivering. Christ is risen for you! He is the only One Who can relieve your burdens and deliver you. He will carry the prayers of His children to the throne of the Father.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 16:23-30 d “That your joy may be full”

We set out on one journey after another chasing the promises of the world and the desires of our flesh, hoping that we may finally achieve that ever elusive joy. Despite our best attempts, our efforts ultimately fail. Jesus suffered all of our faithless pursuits on the cross that we might actually know joy. Through the death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord, we are introduced to the source of everlasting joy, the love of the Father in Christ Jesus—“Whatever you ask the Father in My Name, He will give it to you. . . Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be made full.” Christ is risen to carry the prayers of all who believe in Him to the Father so that our joy may be full. *Heavenly Father, hear our prayer, and give us joy in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 84 “Behold our shield, O God”

The Psalmist realizes that his strength comes from the Lord, so he bravely appeals: “O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!” How can he be so bold in approaching God? On what basis are we able to join with the Psalmist and approach the courts of the Lord that He may hear our prayers? Let’s follow the lead of the Psalmist: “Behold our Shield, O God; look on the face of Your Anointed!” The key to our entrance, our Shield, the Anointed One is none other than our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The righteousness of the Son shields our unrighteousness before the Father. The Son was anointed for our salvation. *O Lord, strengthen me, as I approach Your courts. Behold My Shield, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: James 1:22-27 “Be doers of the Word”

The Word of God is active and living. Baptized into His name most holy, we receive the implanted Word with meekness and so are saved (James 1:21). This Word that we receive, Jesus Christ, sets us free. We are perfected through Him and by Him. We are set free to serve our brothers and sisters, “to visit orphans and widows in their affliction.” The Word of liberty draws our gaze away from ourselves that we might see and serve others and so serve Christ Jesus. James encourages us not to be stained by the ways of the world or deceived by the laziness and self-centeredness of our sinful flesh, but instead be transformed by the living Word of God. *O Lord, may Your Word continue to grow in me that I may be blessed in my doing. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 29:11-14 “I know the plans I have for you”

We place a lot of stock on our planning, so much so, that we are given to think that our future and hope rest on our planning ability. It’s good to plan, but it’s also necessary to remember that our ultimate hope is in our Lord’s plan for us. “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” Our Lord’s plan for us was born of the Virgin Mary, He suffered died, and was raised from the dead for our future and our hope. God’s plan is that we might be rescued from the misfortunes of our own planning that we may find restoration, hope, and peace in Christ Jesus.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Your Son that we might be rescued from exile and brought home. Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 16:14-20 “The Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven”

Today we celebrate Ascension of our Lord, the day Jesus was taken up into heaven, seated at the right hand of God. This marks the last occasion that the disciples laid their eyes on the risen Lord. The ascension is not simply the physical movement of Jesus from earth to heaven; it marks the end of His humiliation. Christ is still a man, but He now reigns in glory. His divine attributes are no longer hidden. The ascended Christ is not confined to a physical throne somewhere in the heavens; He is with us always, in the baptizing, in the teaching, and in the eating and drinking of His body and blood. The heavens have been opened for all humanity. *Lord, open our mouths to proclaim the Good News that the world may receive Your Love. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Romans 8:24-28 “The Spirit helps us in our weakness”

The Lord has ascended into heaven, but we are not left alone. We have been given the Holy Spirit. In your baptism, you received the gift of the Spirit. The Spirit works powerfully in you, especially when life gets tough. In our weakness, when we think that God is far off, when we are suffering and can’t even form a coherent thought, the Spirit Himself intercedes on our behalf. The Spirit translates your groaning and delivers the message to the Father for you. Even as we groan, we hope and we trust in the promises of God received in Christ Jesus. We hope against hope that all things work together for good for those who love God. *Heavenly Father, through the intercession of Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayer and deliver us, for Jesus’ sake. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 124 “Our help is in the name of the Lord”

We are a prideful people. We are given to believe that our future and the future of the church depend largely on our own efforts. This psalm delivers a needful reminder: “If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when the people rose up against us they would have swallowed us up alive, then the flood would have swept us away.” Our strength, our security, our salvation comes only by the hand of God. God is the faithful One. Through the death and resurrection of His Son, we were delivered from certain calamity. “Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.” *O Lord, forgive us of our prideful ways that lead unto death and deliver us from all danger that we may give glory to Your name. Amen.*

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