

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 111:1**

“Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O heavenly Father, as You gladden our hearts again to celebrate the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, mercifully bestow on us the joy to receive Him as our Redeemer and so welcome Him when He comes again to be our judge; through the same Jesus Christ, 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
Our Father, Thou in Heaven Above

TLH 103
Martin Luther



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| 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. | 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. |
| 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. | 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. |



“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.

Around the Word Devotions + the week of May 26-June 1, 2019

THEME OF THE WEEK: He is Risen to Carry the Prayers of Believers to God

Rogate is the Sunday of prayer. Prayer marked the disciples' days before the ascension and especially after, awaiting the Holy Spirit's miraculous advent on Pentecost. It marks our entire existence as we stand between Christ's first and second coming. It is the exercise of faith. Our conviction—that Jesus lives, that He has destroyed our sin and death, that He has reconciled us to a gracious Father—this is the source of our prayers. The very same Jesus has told us to pray and promised that we will be heard. In His Name, then, through the Spirit's intercession, we will call to our Father.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 16:23-30—In Jesus' Name

There will be a day when we no longer ask for anything. Until that day, we ask for everything. We pray. The promise Jesus gives is that the Father listens. The Father loves us because we have loved and believed in Christ His Son, who came into this world at His incarnation and has gone to Him as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. It is through Jesus, then, that we ask confidently, that is, pray to the Father. The Name of Jesus is the Name of salvation and life. It is the Name of confidence, for by this Name we are saved. *Father, hear me for the sake of Jesus, Your Son, my Lord. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 84—The Way to God

Have the way to Zion in your heart. The Psalmist means to know and remember fondly the walk up to the Temple in Jerusalem, the house of God, where the Lord meets graciously with His people. When we ask God to give ear to our prayer, we say just what David did: "Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your Anointed." The anointed one is the Christ, Jesus our Savior. His righteousness grants us access to God. Whenever we pray to God, we ask it in Christ's Name, and thus know we are heard. *Look upon Christ, Lord, for He has redeemed us, and in Him we trust. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: James 1:22-27—Prayers and Conviction

We are not saved for our prayers. Some Christians boast that they pray every day. That is certainly great. But the person who prays one way and lives another is a fool. It is the same as the person who hears God's Word idly without any conviction. When one is convicted by God's Word—of sin, of Christ's righteousness, and of the Devil's defeat—they make a beginning in acting accordingly. Faith convicts the whole life, not only the ears or the mind or the desires a person pours out to God. Heart, tongue, and hand should act in harmony. *Lord, make me effective for the good of my neighbor. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 29:11-14—I Will Hear You

Be sure to read back to verse 10 for the context of this popular but often misused verse. God spoke it first to Judah, whom He was sending into exile. We ought to use it likewise to comfort ourselves in the midst of affliction. The point is this: God promises to hear. It is His promise—not our heartfeltness—that causes Him to hear. Just as He hears, so also He in His good time restores fortunes, causes us to fare well, and works good for us. He works all things—even affliction—together for our good. That is why we pray to Him confidently. *Lord, confirm me in hope and preserve me in Your goodness. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 16:14-20—The Ascension of our Lord

We remember the Lord's ascension today. Mark includes this great comment, however, that as the apostles preached, it was the Lord—not them—who worked with them and confirmed their message. Ascension is not the feast of our Lord's absence from us; it is the celebration of His great coronation and exaltation at the right hand of God's majesty. Christ, risen as a man, is elevated to authority with the Father. As a result, He is able to be with His Church in all places. His presence is not seen as it was in Galilee; it is heard in His Word and tasted in His Supper. *Ascended Lord, rule Your Church! Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Romans 8:24-28—The Good Kind of Groaning

Of course you don't know what or how to pray. Who knows what is best but God? What a comfort, then, that the Holy Spirit—who has access to the inner council of the Holy Trinity—intercedes for us and prays always according to God's perfect will! This gives us courage to offer our prayers, weak as they may be. It gives us confidence that we may add "Amen" to them, since the Spirit prays far deeper than even our best words and efforts. And we found it on this will, which is by no means hidden even if it remains mysterious to us: He wills our good. *Lord, hear my prayers in the Spirit for my good. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 124—An Impossible "If"

Everyone must join in this Psalm. Do you see it? "Let Israel now say..." Imagine all of the things that could have happened to you. Usually we imagine, instead, all of the things that might or will happen to us. But the Psalm is a sort of correction for our worry. It places all of these under that ridiculous category, "if the Lord were not on our side." If the Lord didn't work all things together for our good. There is no such "if." He made heaven and earth. He redeemed us. Christ is proof that He is on our side. He is our Help, let all now say it. *Blessed be Your Name, Lord, for You have spared us. Amen.*

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