

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 86:1, 3, 5, 7, 12, 13**

Be merciful to / me, O Lord,*
for I cry to You / all day long.
For You, Lord, are good, and ready / to forgive,*
and abundant in mercy to all those who call up- / on You.
Bow down Your ear, O Lord, / hear me;*
for I am poor and / needy.
In the day of my trouble I will call up- / on You,*
for You will / answer me.
I will praise You, O Lord my God, with / all my heart,*
and I will glorify Your name for- / evermore.
For great is Your mer- / cy toward me,*
and You have delivered my soul from the / depths of Hell.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Romans 8:18**

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, we pray that Your grace may always go before and follow after us, that we may be continually given to all good works: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
The Will of God is Always Best

TLH 517, LSB 758
Albrecht von Brandenburg



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| <p>1. The will of God is always best
And shall be done forever;
And they who trust in Him are blest,
He will forsake them never.
He helps indeed in time of need,
He chastens with forbearing;
They who depend On God, their Friend,
Shall not be left despairing.</p> | <p>2. God is my Comfort and my Trust,
My Hope and life abiding;
And to His counsel wise and just,
I yield in Him confiding.
The very hairs, His Word declares,
Upon my head He numbers.
By night and day God is my Stay,
He never sleeps nor slumbers.</p> |
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“Perseverance in Glorifying 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 October 1-7, 2017

THEME OF THE WEEK: Perseverance in Glorifying God

We live between resurrections. Christ is risen indeed; all flesh groans for that Day to come, when the glory of God will be revealed in us also. We face doubt and scoffing. The Scriptures prophecy great days of apostasy before Christ's return, besides general unbelief and wickedness. And we see these things every day. Against it, by the Lord's Word alone, we persevere. We give glory to God and confess the truth: Jesus lives. We will live also.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:11-17: Arise

Two crowds meet in the gate: the funeral procession following the widow mourning the death of her son, and Jesus with His disciples. Death and life meet, and the victory remains with life. Jesus touches the casket, says the word "Arise" and the dead man lives. Tear turn to joy, sorrow to wonder, as the Son of Man rescues this man from death and his mother from grief. Jesus comes to give life, and life eternal. He undoes the sin of Adam, and His Words forgive sins, save sinners, and even raise the dead. One day we will hear that voice, "Arise," and we will stand up out of our graves, rejoicing in the resurrection Jesus gives.

O Lord, rescue me from the fear of death by the forgiveness of my sins. Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:121-128, It is Time for You to Act, O Lord

David can't find enough beautiful words to describe the wonder and treasure of God's Word. (Perhaps that's why Psalm 119 is the longest chapter of the Bible.) But the Bible is not a treasure in itself; it is a treasure because it is the very words of God. It is His wisdom, His mercy, His truth, His salvation that is revealed in the Scriptures. His Word teaches us to know our sin. His Word promises the forgiveness of sins in the death of the Messiah. His Word teaches us to pray, to ask the Lord to come to us to be with and bless us, to defend His Church and the preaching of His Word. With joy in His Word, we pray with King

David, *It is time for You to act, O LORD, for they have regarded Your law as void. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 3:13-21, Paul's Prayer for the Church's Open Heart

Paul is always praying for the church. I count 19 times where he reports his prayers, mostly thanksgivings for the Christians and their faith, love, and hope. In this text Paul is praying, asking the Holy Spirit to open the hearts of the Christians, that Christ would dwell there, and that they would somehow be able to comprehend the incomprehensible width, length, depth, and height of the love of God in Christ. This is a good prayer for us to pray, that we would begin, even in the smallest way, to know the vast and incalculable love that Jesus has for us, and knowing this, be filled with the fulness of God. *O Holy Spirit, teach us of Your limitless love, and grant us to rejoice in Your kindness. Amen.*

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WED

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 32:39-40: I Kill and I Make Alive

Life then death, that's the proper order. We are born and then we die. Everyone knows that. But God the LORD does things backwards. "I kill and I make alive." Death comes first, and then life, wounds and then healing. Through the Law the Lord crushes us, brings us to the end of ourselves, and puts us to death. And then, in the sweet promises of the Gospel He forgives us and raises us up in newness of life. The work of God and the Word of God wound and heal, kill and make alive. We rejoice that His healing and life come at the end when there is no more death. The life that God gives lasts forever. *O Lord, kill our sinful flesh with the preaching of the Law, and revive us with Your Gospel. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 11: 19-45, Jesus, The Resurrection, The Life

This conversation between Jesus and Martha has comforted Christians for centuries. Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life. All who believe in Him will live forever. Jesus only needs to speak a word, and the bars of death are broken; the bond of death is loosed. Jesus calls Lazarus out of the grave, and He will do the same for you. If Jesus waits to return, each of us will have to breathe our last and die. It is the way of all flesh. We will be dressed in grave clothes and be put in a tomb. We will be mourned. We will stink. But Jesus, who loves us also, and who weeps at our death, will stand on the earth, and the dead will hear His voice and come forth. He is the Resurrection. He is the Life that never ends. *Jesus, be my Resurrection and my Life. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:21-28: Death: The Last Enemy

Death is not our friend. Death is not something that we need to "get used to" or "come to grips with." Death is the enemy. Death is the result and punishment for our sins. Death stands against God and His kingdom and everything He wills for us. Jesus, by His death and resurrection, destroyed death. He walked out of the tomb, the first-fruits of life. And He will, with His coming again, destroy your death, and make you a partaker of life in the resurrection. Death is the last enemy, and like all the other enemies of God, he will fall, and you will stand, full of the life of God. *O Lord Jesus Christ, bring me, my family, my loved ones, and all Your people through death to life eternal. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 36: The Fountain of Life

Jesus speaks of the human heart and the human mouth as a fountain of death. We are dying, and the things we do and say bring forth death. But with the Lord is "the fountain of life." His works and His words bring forth life. In fact, the words of God are so full of life that they make the dead to be raised, and, even more wonderfully, they make sinners to be righteous and holy. *O LORD, You give us to drink from the fountain of Your pleasures, for with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light. Oh continue Your loving kindness to those who know You, and Your righteousness to the upright in heart. Amen.*

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