

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK 1 Peter 2:2, Psalm 81:1, 7, 10, 16

As newborn babes, Alle- | luia,*
desire the pure milk of the Word. Alleluia. Alle- | luia.
Sing aloud to | God our strength;*
make a joyful shout to the God of | Jacob.
You called in trouble, and I de- | livered you;*
I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.
I am the | Lord your God,*
who brought you out of the land of | Egypt;
open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.*
With honey from the rock I would have sa- | tisfied you.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK 1 John 5:5

“Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and merciful God, as You have brought us to celebrate the festival of the Lord's resurrection, cause us by Your grace to bring forth the fruits thereof in our life and conduct; through the same 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
I Am Content! My Jesus Liveth Still

TLH 196, LSB 468
Johann J. Möller



1. I am content! My Jesus liveth still,
In whom my heart is pleased.
He hath fulfilled the Law of God for me,
God's wrath He hath appeased.
Since He in death could perish never,
I also shall not die forever.
I am content! I am content!

2. I am content! My Jesus is my Head;
His member I will be.
He bowed His head when on the cross
He died

With cries of agony.
Now death is brought into subjection
For me, too, by His resurrection.
I am content! I am content!

5. I am content! Lord, draw me unto Thee
And wake me from the dead
That I may rise forevermore to be
With Thee, my living Head.
The fetters of my body sever,
Then shall my soul rejoice forever.
I am content! I am content!



“He is Risen to Bring Us Forgiveness and Faith”

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 April 8-14, 2018

THEME OF THE WEEK: He is Risen to Bring Us Forgiveness and Faith

He is risen! He is risen to bring us forgiveness and faith. The wandering ways of the world and our sinful flesh at times can be overwhelming, and we fear that we might be overcome. No doubt the disciples felt this way following Jesus' crucifixion as they huddled behind locked doors in the upper room. The sin of the world did not overcome our Lord. He took it to the grave and was raised up in victory. He is risen to seek us out and deliver unto us the spoils of His victory—forgiveness and faith in Him. When the world threatens, when the burden of sin seems too great, look to Jesus, the One who has overcome the world for you!

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 20:19-31 "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus is crucified and the disciples hide. Death does not hold the Savior. His promises do not fail. The risen Savior continues to seek us so that He might personally deliver the gifts He won for us. He breaks through all the barricades of fear and appears to His disciples, saying, "Peace be with you." At the sound of His greeting and the sight of His wounds their hearts are gladdened. Their fear melts away. They are forgiven, at peace with the Lord. The Lord returns the next Sunday. Thomas is present to hear the words, "Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas is given the faith to respond, "My Lord and my God!" *Risen Savior, attend to us each Sunday as we gather that we, who have not seen, may also receive Your forgiveness and faith. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 111 "The Lord is Gracious and Merciful."

The psalmist praises God: "He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever." Indeed, our Savior fulfilled His covenant promise as He provided His body and blood for the life of the world. We continue to receive the benefits personally as we are nourished by His body and blood each Lord's Day. While receiving, we are called to remember, as Luther comments, that "it is grace that His blood brings us from sin to righteousness, from death to life, from the devil to God. It is mercy that He unceasingly forgives us our sin." *Lord, we give You thanks for Your generous outpouring of grace and mercy through the blood of Your Son. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 5:4-10 "The Victory that has Overcome the World."

"And this is the victory that has overcome the world. . . ." Can you guess the answer? "Our faith." "Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" The One Who came to us by water (His baptism) and blood (His crucifixion) is the One Whom the Spirit of Truth gives testimony. The Son of God was baptized and willingly bore the burden of our sin, shedding His blood for us on the cross that we might overcome the world. Wondrously, as we are born of God in baptism, through water and Word, we are cleansed by the blood of His sacrifice and given the testimony of the Spirit (faith) that overcomes the world! *Heavenly Father, preserve us in the faith delivered through water, blood, and Spirit. Amen.*

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WED

SCRIPTURE: Job 19:25-27 "I Know that my Redeemer Lives."

Job, a man tortured by Satan and covered in hideous sores, declares, "After my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God." Job held fast to promises of the living Redeemer. The Redeemer Job looked to in hope came in the flesh, died, and rose from the dead. Our risen Savior is no ghost. He offers His wounds for inspection! He eats with His disciples. He promises the same bodily deliverance: resurrection from the dead, to those who believe in Him. By faith, we boldly declare with Job, "I know that my Redeemer lives." Even as our flesh fails us, we believe that we will behold our Redeemer in the flesh with our own fleshy eyeballs! *Lord, on the Day of Your return, restore my flesh that I may behold You until life everlasting. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 21:15-19 "Follow Me."

On the night when He was betrayed, Peter denied Jesus three times. Peter is not present at the foot of the cross. In the light of the resurrection, Jesus finds Peter. Everything is made new by the risen Lord. Jesus restores Peter in a threefold testimony of love. Jesus charges Peter to tend to the lambs of the Lord's flock. Jesus forgives, restores, uplifts, and sends the one who denied Him. The Lord also prepares Peter for the difficult road ahead, "when you are old another will carry you where you do not want to go." He does the same with us. We are called out of darkness and into His marvelous light. *Lord, may Your Word create in me the faith and courage to follow You through darkness to everlasting light. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 1:17-2:3 "You were Ransomed."

We have been ransomed. "From what?" you might wonder. We were hopelessly enslaved to the futile ways of our forefathers. We were slaves to sin. God sent His Son for our sakes. We were rescued, ransomed with the precious blood of Christ. Born again through the waters of baptism, the ransom payment is personally applied to us. We are set free, our souls are purified. By the power of the living and abiding Word of God, we are given faith and hope in God through the One Who paid our ransom and was raised from the dead, Jesus Christ. Having been set free with purified souls, we are called to love one another earnestly from a pure heart. *Lord, we were bought with a price, may Your sacrificial love create in us sincere love for one another. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 4 "You Alone, O Lord, Make Me Dwell in Safety."

We selfishly expect comfort from life. When things are not comfortable we complain and cry out. Our Lord invites us to lift up our hearts and approach Him in prayer. The psalmist has faith in the Lord, "the Lord hears when I call to Him." The world taunts, "who will show us some good?" We ponder our suffering in our hearts as we lie on our beds. We are reminded to trust in the Lord. The faith the Lord has given will deliver. "You have put more joy in my heart," writes the psalmist, than the taunters "when their grain and wine abound." The peace of the Lord is much more than worldly comfort. The One who provides our daily bread will deliver us from all evil. *Lord, may I rest securely in Your peace, for You alone make me dwell in safety. Amen.*

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