5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 68:5-6, 35, 1, 3, 7, 10, 19

God is in His holy habi- / tation.*
He gives a home to the / desolate.
The God of Israel is He who / gives strength*
and power to His / people.
Let God arise, Let His enemies be / scattered;*
let those also who hate Him flee be- / fore Him.
But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice be- / fore God;*
yes, let them rejoice ex- / ceedingly.
O God, when you went out before Your / people,*
you, O God, provided from Your goodness / for the poor.
Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with / benefits,*
the God of our sal- / vation!

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Romans 10:17**

"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ."

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

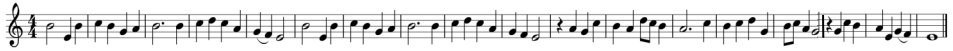
Almighty and everlasting God, who are always more ready to hear than we to pray and give more than we either desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy, forgiving those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things that we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Christ, our Lord; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK

From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

TLH 329, LSB 607
Martin Luther



1. From depths of woe I cry to Thee,
Lord, hear me, I implore Thee.
Bend down Thy gracious ear to me,
My prayer let come before Thee.
If Thou rememberest each misdeed,
If each should have its rightful meed,
Who may abide Thy presence?

2. Thy love and grace alone avail
To blot out my transgression;
The best and holiest deeds must fail
To break sin's dread oppression.
Before Thee none can boasting stand,
But all must fear Thy strict demand
And live alone by mercy.

3. Therefore my hope is in the Lord
And not in mine own merit;
It rests upon His faithful Word
To them of contrite spirit
That He is merciful and just;
This is my comfort and my trust.
His help I wait with patience.

Around the Word Devotions + August 16-22, 2026

"Believing Humility"

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 August 16-22, 2026

THEME OF THE WEEK: Believing Humility

The stance of the Christian is always to receive. We receive Jesus' word into our ears and hearts, and there God creates and sustains faith. Through this faith, God counts us righteous for the sake of Jesus. The Christian life therefore is a life of continual reception of the things that God has to give. We do not puff up ourselves with our works of charity and piety and present them to God, but rather we in humility count our works as rubbish even as we do them for love of God and neighbor. Our sufficiency is of Christ alone.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 18:9-14 – Humility Before God

Two men go up the temple to pray. One stands by himself and praises himself. The other stands far off and begs mercy from God, and God gives it. He "went down to his house justified," that is, forgiven and reconciled to God. Righteousness is given as a gift to those who know their great need, as the tax collector did. But those who would assert their own righteousness, ironically, are unrighteous before God. Christ has come for sinners. If you would have Him and His righteousness, count yourself as such.
Lord Jesus, have mercy on me, a sinner! Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Ps 119, eleventh part (KAPH v81-88) – The Assurance of Salvation in the Midst of All Thing s

The Word of God, His truth and decrees, are certain and sure. They last forever. In all things we rest secure in that very life-giving and life-sustaining Word. What else builds us up and comforts our wearied souls except the delight that we find in His Law and precepts. Only the Word of our God (written and Incarnate and spoken) can shield us from sin, death, and the devil. As certainly as His Word is set in the heavens and the earth has been established in its place, so too, as assuredly, does our Lord deliver to us His salvation. *O Lord, I am Yours; save me! Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:1-10 – His Grace is Not in Vain

If Christ is not raised from the dead, nothing matters and everything is futile! If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith and the apostolic preaching of the Gospel is in vain! "But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor. 15:20). Your faith, the apostle's preaching, and God's grace toward you is not in vain! Christ bled, died and rose for an unworthy apostle who persecuted His Church and He bled, died and rose for every unworthy sinner born of Adam. Rejoice and give humble thanks to the One who died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures (v.3). His grace for Saint Paul, for you, for me, is not in vain! *O Lord, we give thanks for Your grace in Christ Jesus that is never in vain. Amen.*

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WED

SCRIPTURE: 2 Samuel 22:21-29 – Christian Humility

"You save a humble people" spoke David in his great song of deliverance "but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down." Humility towards God is nothing else but faith, which is glad to not only speak the same things which God speaks in His Word about our sinful condition, but also will receive His gracious promise of forgiveness through Christ. Humility is therefore the posture of the Christian toward God. The haughty, however, are puffed up with their own merits and ideas about God and despise God and His Word. They will be brought down. Hear what the sacred scriptures speak dear Christian, and learn to say "yes and amen" to it! *Lord God, make me humble that I would receive what You give me. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:36-50 – *Faith and Love*

Do we receive forgiveness by grace alone through faith alone, or do our works contribute something? The sinful woman did not earn forgiveness for her many sins because she loved much. Just the opposite: she loved because she received forgiveness by grace through faith. She trusted in Christ alone for forgiveness. Her faith alone saved her, and the fruit of that faith was seen in her love. So also, our faith receives the forgiveness of sins in Christ alone by His grace alone, and this faith bears the good fruit of love for God and others. *O Christ, grant us forgiveness by Your grace alone, and grant us the fruit of good works that follow. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Romans 10:4-18 – Ears, Heart, Mouth.

The righteousness of the Law eludes our grasp; in contrast, the righteousness of faith is at hand. Christ comes to us. He is as near as the Word of the Gospel in ear and heart and mouth. The Word is preached, heard, and believed; that faith leads the mouth to confess. This is the message that must go out to all the world: that Christ alone is our righteousness by faith. What a perfect lead in to this Sunday's Gospel, when the Word of Christ will open our ears to hear and our mouths to speak. *Lord, open my ears to hear, my heart to believe, and my mouth to confess. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 147 – Praise the Lord

Teaching His disciples not to be anxious, Jesus rhetorically asks, "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" (Matt. 6:26). In a similar manner, Psalm 147 teaches us to "praise the LORD," trust in His providential care and hope in His steadfast love (v. 11). The One who is the Creator of the universe, Who sends rain upon the earth and feeds its animals is the same God Who gathers and saves Israel, Who looks upon your every need and delights to care for you. He saves you by His redeeming love in Christ and fills you with His peace that passes all understanding. Praise the LORD indeed! *O LORD, we praise You for all that You do for us. Amen.*

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