

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Isaiah 20:29, 30; 62:11; Psalm 80:1, 3, 14, 17**

Daughter of | Zion,*
 behold, surely your salvation is | coming.
The Lord will cause His glorious voice | to be heard,*
 and you shall have glad- | ness of heart. (Isaiah 20:29, 30; 62:11)
Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*
 You who lead Jacob | like a flock.
Restore | us, O God:*
 cause Your face to shine, and we | shall be saved!
Return, we beseech You, O | God of Hosts,*
 look down from heav- | en and see.
Let Your hand be upon the Man of Your | right hand,*
 upon the Son of Man whom You made strong | for Yourself.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 42:5**
“Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil with me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son that by His coming we may be given to serve You with cleansed minds; 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
O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee

TLH 58, LSB 334
Paul Gerhardt



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| <p>1. O Lord, how shall I meet Thee,
How welcome Thee aright?
Thy people long to greet Thee,
My Hope, my heart's Delight!
O kindle, Lord, most holy,
Thy lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please Thee best.</p> | <p>2. Love caused Thy incarnation,
Love brought Thee down to me;
Thy thirst for my salvation
Procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling,
That led Thee to embrace,
In love all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race!</p> |
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“The Lord is Yet to Come Again”

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 December 6-12, 2020

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Lord is Yet to Come Again

“He is coming.” That is our Advent cry. On Christmas we rejoice in His coming in the flesh. He comes to us in His Word and Sacraments. He is coming again as Judge at the very end of the age. The celebration of His coming brightens the darkest nights with light, song, and shouts of joy. When He comes in glory, it will be a great day, not of judgment, but of salvation. We will be judged according to the works of Christ who dwelt for nine months in the womb of Mary. He is our fortress. He is our salvation. He is our hope made flesh and coming again.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 21:25-36 He Will Not Pass Away

In *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Narnia is trapped in winter. Layers of snow cover the land in a white death. Then, Aslan, the Christ figure, comes. Winter's death gives way to Spring's life. The snow melts and the grass, fruit, and vegetation return. Their redemption draws near. Consider your heart which also experiences the darkness of the world's tribulations. Your redemption is also drawing near. Christ comes by means of His Word and sacraments into His sanctuaries. He is coming with His Kingdom which will never pass away to be defeated by death. He Himself is our Risen Lord and all who belong to Him will share in His eternal life.

Help us see Your Kingdom is the midst of our darkness. Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 42 God of Hope

Twice the Sons of Korah say, “Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God.” The psalmist feels cut off from God. Yet, he waits. He has hope. He will be reunited with God again. He knows that this God is his Savior. He is “my God.” The God the psalmist worships is the same “Jesus Christ, my Lord, Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person.” His confession is our confession. God, in the mercy revealed in Christ Jesus' death and resurrection, gives us reason to hope.

Help us put our hope in You. Amen.

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 15:4-13 What is hope?

Rejoice! Your salvation is coming to you. Though it feels like we've been waiting a long time, salvation is coming. Last week we heard how He rode upon a donkey into His city to die. Today He comes to us in His Word which was written for our instruction, both for the Jew and Gentile. In it we have a hope which comes from outside of ourselves. It is a hope built on the teachings of the Law and the Prophets, who proclaim Jesus as our Savior. One day He will come again and stand before us, Him and no other. That is our Holy Spirit-given hope.

Lord, teach us to hope aright. Amen.

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WED

SCRIPTURE: Micah 4:1-7 Great and Terrible Day

The great and terrible day of the Lord is coming. Great for whom? Terrible for whom? Terrible for those who rejected John and His message of Jesus as Savior. Great for you who believe. The Lord is coming not for your destruction but your salvation. The Baptist's sermon is a refiner's fire that separates metal from its impurities. His Law kills so the Savior's Gospel can give life. He prepares the way for the Sun of Righteous that shines on you with healing in its wings. Your souls, having been purified by faith in the justifying righteousness of Christ, are prepared for joyful service to your neighbors. *Lord, refine us with Your fire.*

Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-35 He is coming!

“He is coming”. That is our Advent cry. The Lord is on the way. The Son promised to David is He, mighty and having salvation. He rules eternally. Jesus' birth is announced by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary. The Holy Spirit, just as the angel promised, conceives the promised Seed in her womb much like He conceives faith in our hearts. The Lord will dwell in the womb of Mary for nine months. There, in the Virgin, the eternal Second Person of the Trinity has become flesh, fully God and fully man to save His people — to save you — from sin, death and the power of the devil.

O Lord, how we long to meet You and rejoice at Your coming. Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Romans 2:1-16 All have sinned; in God alone there is salvation.

All have sinned. All. That includes you and me. We have sinned. We deserve judgment and punishment for our sins. But that does not stop us from placing guilt at the feet of others in our own petty judgments. When we do, we reflect the depths of our sinfulness and self-righteousness. But all we do is condemn ourselves. And yet, God has mercy upon us. He judges us, not based upon our sins, but upon Christ and what Christ has given us; His righteousness through which, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we have faith, life and salvation.

Lord, judge us according to Gospel of Christ. Amen.

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 91 The Shadow of the Almighty

The Lord is our Savior and Redeemer. He delivers those who trust in Him. He shelters us under His wings, casting His shadow upon us. He saves us from the hidden dangers of this world that want to hurt and harm us. We are free to cast our cares and worries upon Him. Yet, there will be times when trouble does come our way. The Lord will use it to deepen our trust in Him who will deliver us out from it. He is our hope and salvation. His is a Kingdom that will never pass away.

God, You are my refuge and fortress, my God, in whom I trust. Amen.

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