

“God Manifested in the Youth of Jesus”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Isaiah 6:1. Revelation 19:6; Psalm 100:1-5**

I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and | lifted up,*
 And the train of His robe filled the | temple.
 And I heard the voice of a great multitude, | saying,*
 “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omni- | potent reigns!
 Make a joyful shout to the Lord, | all you lands!*
 Serve the Lord with | gladness;
 Know that the Lord, | He is God;*
 it is He who has made us, and not | we ourselves;
 enter into His gates with thanks- | giving,*
 and into His | courts with praise.
 For the Lord is good; His mercy is ever- | lasting,*
 and His truth endures to all gener- | ations.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Luke 2:52**
 “And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
 O Lord, we beseech You mercifully to receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through 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 Jesus, King of Glory** TLH 130
 Martin Behm



1. O Jesus, King of Glory,
 Both David's Lord and Son!
 Thy realm endures forever,
 In heaven is fixed Thy throne.
 Help that in earth's dominions,
 Throughout from pole to pole,
 Thy reign may spread salvation
 To each benighted soul.

6. And bid Thy Word within me
 Shine as the fairest star;
 Keep sin and all false doctrine
 Forever from me far.
 Help me confess Thee truly
 And with Thy Christendom
 Here own Thee King and Savior
 And in the world to come.

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.

THEME OF THE WEEK: God Manifested in the Youth of Jesus

Jesus redeemed the whole extent of our human lives from conception to death. Nothing pertaining to our humanity is left untouched by Jesus' life-giving flesh. God be praised! Before our flesh knew only sin's power and the devil's captivity. By being perfectly obedient to His heavenly Father, by being submissive to Joseph and the Blessed Virgin, by keeping the Law our flesh could not keep, Jesus offered up His obedience to God as our own. On the cross, He offered up His sufferings under the Law's punishments as our own. For Jesus' sake, God loves us as His dear children whether we are newly born or nearing our last moments of this life.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:41-52 "Obedience and Submissiveness"

With this story the Spirit opens your heart to trust in Jesus' perfect obedience to God and earthly authority. The world thinks it's an either/or proposition. Either you choose to love God, or you choose to love people. Not so. When Mary and Joseph lost Jesus, He sought out His heavenly Father's sanctuary. This beautifully kept the first three commandments. When they finally found Him, He wasn't angry, but submitted Himself to their God-given authority from the 4th commandment. Jesus' obedience and submissiveness has become yours through baptism and faith. More than that, the story teaches us to trust God the Father while we're patient with the powers over us in this world. *Grant me to trust in Jesus' righteousness as my salvation, O Lord. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 13 "How Long?"

It's not weakness to heap your sorrows upon the Lord. Nor is it sin. Do you show one face to the world while carefully concealing your pain? Showing vulnerability gives satisfaction to our enemies. So we set our faces like flint to hide our hurt. Meanwhile our hearts wither under the weight of the insults, betrayals, and shame. It feels like God's turned His back on us. It feels like we've been forgotten. Learn to pray for the Lord's help from David who laid bare his anguish. Bearing weakness to the God who became weak for your salvation in the person of His Son is faith. Remember the cross. Remember Jesus' sufferings and see the Lord's steadfast love. He will not abandon you. *I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:1-5 "By the Mercies of God"

The Old Adam cannot stand the thought of self-sacrifice. He is concerned with his own honor and glory, even if that means treating others with contempt. But as Christians we rejoice to present our bodies as living sacrifices, not thinking of ourselves more highly than others but serving the other members of the Body of Christ. We do so by the mercies of God alone, for by faith we know that the Lord Jesus humbled Himself even to death on the cross for us, so that in Him we might have the hope of the glories of heaven. *O God, by Your mercies help us to be living sacrifices before You. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-3 "Inspired to Bring Good News"

According to custom, Jesus went to the synagogue in Nazareth on the Sabbath day to worship by hearing His Father's Word and believing it. Today, the scroll was given to Jesus to read. Having read from Isaiah, all the eyes of the synagogue were fixed on Him. "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). Before, Jesus listened intently to God's Word like the rest of the men. But today, after being anointed to begin His public ministry by the Holy Spirit at His baptism, Jesus revealed himself as the Prophet greater than Moses who is the preacher of a new covenant of grace, a minister of Good News. God be praised. The year of the Lord's favor has come. *Grant us not to reject Your Son, O Lord, but to embrace His words with faith Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:13-16 "Receive the Kingdom of God Like a Child"

It's not just that little children, even infants, can believe in their Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus says that they are the model believers, the example which every Christian should seek to imitate. For Christ wills that we trust in Him and Him alone for salvation, without trying to mingle in our own works or efforts. As the baptized children of God, let us recognize our complete and total dependence on God for every blessing, and let us rejoice that Jesus loves us and grants us all that we need for our bodies and souls now and forever. *Heavenly Father, grant us, Your dear children, faith in You alone for every good gift. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:1-4 "Love for Others in the Lord"

Jesus found no conflict between His duties toward His heavenly Father and toward Mary and Joseph. To love your neighbor as yourself is like the command to love the Lord with everything you have. We who are baptized into Christ follow His example of love. We love God, and this is seen in love for others. In the home, love is lived out as children obey their parents and parents bring up their children in the Christian faith. Loving God and loving our family shouldn't conflict, for all that we do as Christians toward our neighbors is "in the Lord." *Heavenly Father, thank You for the great blessing that You have given us in our family. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 86 "Gladden the Soul"

When we seek the Lord in prayer, especially in our most desperate moments, the Lord will prove Himself to us as our gracious deliverer. David assures us that the Lord is good and forgiving. When we fall upon our knees and cast ourselves upon His mercy, no sin that we've committed, no shame, and no guilt will stand between us and our God. The Lord's favor has been purchased and won for you by Jesus' precious blood shed upon the cross. His sufferings are so effective in having won God's favor that the law, devil, world, and our flesh cannot keep our Father from answering us in the day of trouble. Nothing gives God greater joy than to prove this love and mercy to us often as we look to Him to help us. *You, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me. Amen.*