

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 97:6,9, 1, 10-12**

The heavens declare His | righteousness,\*  
and all the peoples see His | glory.  
For You, Lord, are most high above | all the earth;\*  
You are exalted far a- | bove all gods  
The Lord reigns; let the | earth rejoice;\*  
let the multitude of | isles be glad!  
He preserves the souls | of His saints;\*  
He delivers them out of the hand of the | wicked.  
Light is sown for the | righteous,\*  
and gladness for the up- | right in heart.  
Rejoice in the Lord, you | righteous,\*  
And give thanks at the remembrance of His | holy name.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Hebrews 11:16**

“But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared for them a city.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Your hand to help and defend us; 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 Christ, Our True and Only Light**

TLH 512, LSB 839  
Johann Herrmann



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| <p>1. O Christ, our true and only Light,<br/>Enlighten those who sit in night;<br/>Let those afar now hear Thy voice<br/>And in Thy fold with us rejoice.</p> <p>3. Oh, gently call those gone astray<br/>That they may find the saving way!<br/>Let every conscience sore oppress<br/>In Thee find peace and heavenly rest.</p> | <p>5. Shine on the darkened and the cold,<br/>Recall the wanderers to Thy fold,<br/>Unite all those who walk apart,<br/>Confirm the weak and doubting heart,</p> <p>6. So they with us may evermore<br/>Such grace with wondering thanks adore<br/>And endless praise to Thee be given<br/>By all Thy Church in earth and heaven.</p> |
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“God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Heal”

**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 Power of Jesus to Heal**

Sickness bears witness to God's wrath against sin. Broken bones, cancer, and the flu aren't accidental consequences of living in an indifferent universe. They're evidence of what St. Paul calls creation's "bondage to corruption" (Romans 8:21). In other words, our world unravels into death because of man's rebellion against God (Romans 5:12). Jesus stops the decline into decay. By healing the sick, He's proving that in His person and through His works, death's day is done. He suffers our condemnation unto death on the cross and in return gives us the Father's blessing. His resurrection snatches despair from our hearts and gives us hope.

SUN

**SCRIPTURE: Matthew 8:1-13 Seeing Jesus by Faith**

Was Jesus just another prophet or something more? His authority was unlike anything the crowds ever heard before. The leper saw the truth. Or rather Jesus' Word had made a home in his heart and opened the eyes of faith. This man is God in the flesh! He didn't ask Jesus to petition God's favor on his behalf. Instead, he offered his prayer directly to Jesus as his God. His faith didn't fail him. Jesus healed him according to His divine authority and will. This is true, saving faith that sees past the limitations of human eyes. By the illumination of the Holy Spirit, this faith grasps the Savior by trusting in His Word. *Merciful Savior, grant me the Holy Spirit to see You as my true Lord and God Who saves me from every evil of body and soul. Amen.*

MON

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 15 Who Shall Dwell on Your Holy Hill?**

David asks the question, "Who has the right to live with God without fear of judgement and wrath?" The saintly portrait he paints is too high for our flesh to attain. The man must be perfect as the heavenly Father is perfect. The man must be holy, without the taint of corruption. David isn't setting a moralistic ideal before us, to encourage us to try our best but not to worry too much if we don't make it. Either you're perfect or you're under judgment. Only Christ's imputed righteousness grants us to read this psalm with joy. "For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21). *I praise You, Jesus, for righteousness I possess by faith. Grant me also to grow in holiness daily. Amen.*

TUE

**SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:16-21b Overcome Evil by Forgiveness**

When we are sinned against, the great temptation is to justify our sinning in response. When someone does us wrong, we want to do wrong back because we believe they deserve it. But St. Paul reminds us this is not the way to act. "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." We respond to being sinned against by praying and forgiving. Our example for this is how the Lord Himself deals with our sins. He does not hold our sins against us. He does not repay us with evil. He repays us with His own blood. He overcomes our evil with the good of His death and resurrection. *Heavenly Father, keep me from seeking retaliation against my enemies, but instead, to forgive as You have forgiven me. Amen.*

WED

**SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 33:6-9 Healed by Forgiveness**

The Lord promises to bring health and healing. We hear this and we get both excited and confused. Excited because, who doesn't want health and healing? Confused because, who of us knows a world devoid of those things. But what we fail to recognize are two things. First, that the healing promised is what is spoken of in verse 8, to be cleansed from our guilt. To be forgiven of our sins. Second, that the final removal of our ailments, the final fulfillment of health and healing, is when our Lord raises our bodies on the Last Day. Then we will have no more sickness, as well as no more sin, and that will last for eternity. *Lord Jesus, thank You for Your forgiveness and promise to raise me healed on the Last Day. Amen.*

THU

**SCRIPTURE: Luke 17: 5-10 My Faith and Jesus' Faithfulness**

The disciples are frightfully aware of their lack of abilities—the Lord Jesus has given quite rigorous and intimidating instructions for ministry. They undoubtedly sense they don't measure up and cry out "Increase our faith!" Our Lord's call to faithfulness proves that we are also woefully unequipped. But thanks be to God it's not the size of our faith—rather it all depends on Jesus' faithfulness. Will He do all the mercies God has promised? Will He bear His cross, setting aside His cloak of divine glory? Can He move the mulberry tree of our sin into the sea? Thanks be to God the answer is yes! He is faithful unto death and for the sake of His cross, His faithfulness saves you. We can pray for an increase, because we're praying for an increase in the promises of Jesus—which He gladly gives. *Lord, I believe, help my unbelief! Amen.*

FRI

**SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 11:1-16 What the Old Testament Teaches About Faith**

A friend of mine calls this the Old Testament's 'hall of fame' of faith. Sounds good. First, we hear about what faith is. It's not a feeling, but a conviction. It's having confidence that God's promises, which we hear and trust without sight, are true. This faith is our saving gift from God, and it comes through the Word alone, whether it be preached or administered through baptism. As the Word and faith are our saving heritage, so it was for all the Old Testament saints. They didn't belong to a strange and primitive religion. They belonged to the religion that bestows righteousness by a promise for Christ's sake. As they journeyed toward the heavenly country, let's follow their Christian example. *Grant me steadfastness of faith, heavenly Father. Amen.*

SAT

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 33 The Lord Preserves the Faithful**

This is a perfect psalm to read and pray when you've been both spiritually and bodily attacked. The devil wants you to think that in your pain and hurt that God is very far away, that He's either forgotten about you or doesn't care. What lies! Though the saints suffer every calamity, though the world and devils mock their faith, the Lord preserves the faithful. He is a rock of refuge in every storm. He is the Redeemer from sin and every evil. He is faithful to His promises, even if His deliverance seems slow in coming. Our times are in His hand. For Christ's sake He shines His face on His servants through His Word. Soon He will let it shine with the light and glory of resurrection. *O Lord, let me not be put to shame, for I call upon You. Amen.*

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