

“The Sanctification Wrought by the Spirit”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 27:1, 7, 9, 11-12, 14**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry / with my voice!*
 Have mercy also upon me, and / answer me.
 You have / been my help;*
 do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my sal- / vation.
 The Lord is my light and my sal- / vation;*
 whom / shall I fear?
 Teach me Your / way, O Lord,*
 and lead me in a / smooth path.
 Do not deliver me to the will of my adver- / saries;*
 for false witnesses have risen a- / gainst me.
 Wait on the Lord; be of good / courage,*
 and He shall streng- / then your heart.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Luke 5:6**

“Simon answered, ‘Master we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Your word, I will let down the nets.’”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, who has prepared for those that love You such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love toward You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost

TLH 231, LSB 768
 Martin Luther



1. We now implore the Holy Ghost
 For the true faith, which we need
 the most,
 That in our last moments He may
 befriend us
 And, as homeward we journey,
 attend us.
 Lord, have mercy!

4. Thou highest Comfort in every need, Grant
 that neither shame nor death
 we heed,
 That e'en then our courage may never fail us
 When the Foe shall accuse and
 assail us.
 Lord, have mercy!

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: The Sanctification Wrought by the Spirit

People saying Christians lack the Spirit are not to be tolerated. For wherever God's Word is taught in its truth and purity, and the Sacraments rightly administered, there is the true Christian Church, and by necessity, the Holy Spirit. God has promised by His Spirit to call, gather, and enlighten believers and keep the whole Church on earth in the one true faith. In the Trinity season, the Church and her members pray for an increase in this sacred work, so that the love of God be increased in each member of the body of Christ. Our readings and meditations this week make it clear that God's Spirit is outpoured in abundance.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 5:1-11 Death to Doubt

Human reasoning bends toward skepticism. Because of the fall trust is alien and hard work. Simon Peter has no reason to listen to Jesus's dubious fishing expertise. So, His confession, "at Your word," is miraculous. Working through Jesus' preaching overcomes the doubt we have about God that's embedded in our nature by sin. By the Spirit's work, Simon Peter confesses his fallen condition. Yet he foolishly begs Jesus to leave. Jesus won't have it. Instead, Jesus promises the continual outpouring of the Spirit to His disciples and everyone He calls, for the sake of their saving faith. His Spirit draws us near to Him all our days, to His cross and until He comes again. *Lord, by Your Spirit put to death our doubt, sustain us now and the day of Your appearing. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119, fifth part (HE v33-40) Stand firm in the Word to the End

The Catechism teaches the work of the Spirit is to enlighten, that is, to make one wise unto salvation. This enlightening is not a one-time download of the whole counsel of God. The Psalmist confesses the counsel of God given in the Scripture, and at the same time writes that this teaching, keeping, leading, and turning, is ongoing and lifelong. God gives us His Word and promises us His Spirit through it. Thus, the Christian gladly accepts and meditates on the Word of God and believes the Spirit is working on his conscience. The ongoing confirmation of the promise in our hearts strengthens the whole life through, readying us for eternity. By the Spirit's work, our eyes see Jesus more clearly in the Scripture, and our sanctified gaze is averted from things that are unholy and unprofitable. *Lord, keep me steadfast in Your Word. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 3:8-15 Wait for the Lord

Changing the circumstances of your life with the snap of your fingers seems tantalizing—likely because we think of 5, 10, 50 even 80 years as a "long time" and "variety is the spice of life." A lot of stuff comes and goes throughout our lives, too. St. Peter reminds us that variety, time, and stuff is hardly our chief concern. Rather, Christians live and wait in holiness and godliness, anticipating the world to come. As eager as we are to dwell with Righteousness, by the Spirit's sustaining, we contentedly wait. We are assured of our salvation, but it is the Lord who accomplishes it, not us. Therefore, we rejoice that the Lord's wisdom, timing and patience is merciful and indicative of His love for all to be saved. *God, by Your Spirit, grant me patience to joyfully await Your salvation. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 16:14-21 Confidence Worked by the Spirit

Jeremiah surely was labeled a cranky, delusional conservative, holding on to outdated beliefs, by his many opponents. That can be discouraging. Yet in these verses he confesses boldly by the Spirit, God will be vindicated; no one who opposes God will escape, and also God will fulfill and complete His saving work. The Prophet acknowledges the people's rampant idolatry must be dealt with (vv.16-18) because God is a just and fair God. Yet, he also sees God as a God of grace, mercy, and love (vv.14-15, 19). The Christian boldly prays and believes the same by the work of the Spirit: sin must be dealt with. Yet by repentance and faith, for Jesus' sake, we believe and know God is a God of grace. *Almighty God, grant me fear and trust for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:13-26 Correction Worked by the Spirit

A little child loves to help mom or dad and hear the praise of a job well done. Peter had been praised by Jesus for the confession from the Father and wrought by the Spirit. Perhaps again eager to be helpful, He discourages Jesus from speaking of His chief work. The Lord's response was undoubtedly harsh and shocking. Every believer is granted moments of clarity, and yet also stumbles on account of sinful reasoning. Yet, the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and chastises every son whom He receives. Pride would always lead us to believe that we've been injured by the correction of the Holy Spirit, but thanks be to God the clarity we receive results in right doctrine and spiritual growth meant for good. *Dearest Jesus, enlighten me in the true confession and right understanding of Your Word. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 2:4-10 The Holy Habitation of the Lord

The Spirit's chief work in the broadest sense, is to make things holy. He does this by calling and gathering, as the Catechism says, by the Gospel of Christ. Those who have heard and believe, having been made holy by the blood of Christ and declared righteous, become fine materials the Spirit uses to build the Holy Christian Church. It seems natural that the spiritual sacrifices of prayer, praise, thanksgiving, and God-pleasing works offered by this spiritual house are pleasing for Jesus' sake. And it makes good sense, too, that God's Spirit loves to dwell in each believer and the whole body of Christ. For God desires to be with those He loves. *Lord, by Your Spirit keep me body and soul as a member of Your holy habitation. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 113 Exalted by the Enlightenment that Comes by the Spirit

They say it's not what you know, it's who you know. The Christian, a servant of the Lord, knows the true God is high above all the nations. The unbeliever makes mammon the ticket to spiritual and earthly exaltation. A Christian may or may not move in circles of influence or work with movers and shakers, those seeming conquerors of creation in mega yachts. It doesn't matter. Without the enlightening power of God's Holy Spirit, all people are in the same sinking spiritual boat. But thanks be to God, because He has sent His spirit to impart to us the benefits of Christ, the Christian delights in his humble, miserable, lowly estate because the Spirit comes daily, yes every moment, to exalt those who confess their sins and desire the blood of Christ and offers them a new creation and the riches of heaven. I think I'll go read Hannah's song and the Magnificat. *Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised. Amen.*

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