



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 13:5-6, 1-4**

O Lord, I have trusted in Your / mercy;*
 my heart shall rejoice in Your sal- / vation.
 I will sing / to the Lord,*
 because He has dealt bountiful- / ly with me. (Psalm 13:5-6)
 How long, O Lord? Will You forget me for- / ever?*

How long will You hide Your / face from me?
 How long shall I take counsel / in my soul,*
 how long will my enemy be exalted / over me?
 Consider and hear me, O / Lord my God;*

enlighten my eyes, lest I sleep the / sleep of death;
 lest my enemy say, “I have prevailed a- / gainst him”;*
 lest those who trouble me rejoice when / I am moved.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Luke 16:31**

“If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, the Strength of all those who put their trust in You, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing, grant us the help of Your grace that in keeping Your commandments we may please You both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide

TLH 292, LSB 585
 Nikolaus Selnecker



1. Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,
 For round us falls the eventide;
 Nor let Thy Word, that heavenly light,
 For us be ever veiled in night.

2. In these last days of sore distress
 Grant us, dear Lord, true
 steadfastness
 That pure we keep, till life is spent,
 Thy holy Word and Sacrament.

4. Oh, keep us in Thy Word, we pray;
 The guile and rage of Satan stay!
 Oh, may Thy mercy never cease!
 Give concord, patience, courage, peace.

9. Oh, grant that in Thy holy Word
 We here may live and die, dear Lord;
 And when our journey endeth here,
 Receive us into glory there.

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 June 11-17, 2023

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Spirit's Words in Holy Scripture

The Lord gives us His Word in order to bring us to faith, sustain us in the faith, and to bring us into the blessed resurrection on the last day. While we have many temptations which seek to drive us from the Lord's Word, such as the desire for miracles, the riches of this life, our own sinful boasting, and much more, the Lord nonetheless continues to send us His Word. He preaches to us over and over of His work in Christ which redeems us from all sins and brings us to His eternal riches.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 16:19-31 – Seeing Isn't Believing

We walk by faith, not by sight. There is a temptation to think that if we could only see Jesus, if we could see His miracles and signs and wonders then we (and all those around us) would believe. But that's not where faith is born. Faith is born not in our eyes but in our ears. "If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead." If we will not believe through our ears, hearing the Word of God, then we will not believe through any miracles either. But the Lord, in His mercy, has poured out His Word into our ears, striking also our hearts, minds, and even eyes, so that we see by faith. *Lord, keep me steadfast in Your word. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:1-8 (ALEPH) – A Blessed Way

The Psalmist says "Blessed are those whose way is blameless." But how can this be for us? We know that our sins taint everything, that even our righteous deeds are as filthy rags. How can we, who bear the corruption of sin, be blameless in our ways? Not by our own works, but by the declaration of the Lord. The Lord declares us, who are His beloved bride, to be holy and blameless, without any spot or blemish. And so He bids us to stand in those promises, to walk in those ways. Blessed are those who walk in His ways. The Lord gives us His Word so that we would know our sin, but also so that we would know our Savior, and walk in the way He has laid out for us: the way of blamelessness. *Lord, thank You for making me blameless in Christ. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 4:16-21 – Love Proceeding from God

The Lord expects us to Love. It's the first fruit of the Spirit. It's the command of the new covenant. It's the summary of the Commands. And it's impossible for us, at least if left to ourselves. If it were left up to us, we would never love, never forgive, never show any kindness to those around us. We cannot well up in ourselves what the Lord demands of us. But that's not the expectation. "We love *because* He first loved us." The love which we show one another doesn't come from us, but from God. It's not our love, but God's love that we show. It is His love defined by His commands and words and demonstrated through the death of His Son. We take what God gives to us, and we pass it along. *Lord, help me to show Your love to my neighbor. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 9:23, 24 – Boasting in the Lord

Ever since the fall into sin, humanity has defaulted to boasting in our own works. We boast in how wise we are, or how strong we are, or how much stuff we have. But the Lord redirects this boasting, to Himself. If we are to boast, we are to boast in the Lord, Who alone has given us all these things. We do not have true wisdom apart from the Lord. We are not strong on our own. And every good gift comes to us from the hand of the Father. More than this, though, the Lord has given Himself to us, in the person of Christ. So we may rightly boast that God has given us all things, both temporal and eternal, and in our boasting point to the One Who gives to all as He sees fit. *Lord, help me to give thanks to You and place my boasting in You. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 12:13-21 – Eternal Treasures

What is the greatest treasure we can have? The world and our sinful nature would have us believe that our greatest treasure lies in physical wealth. We place a great amount of effort into accumulating for ourselves treasures on earth. We scrape together whatever we can get our hands on, believing that if we just had enough, we'd be content. But enough is always a little more. Conversely, the Lord gives to us an eternal treasure in His Word and in Christ. This treasure is never lacking, it never grows old, and it brings us into the blessed resurrection where we also enjoy more physical treasures than we can imagine. Let us then grow rich toward God with eternal treasures. *Lord, help me focus on the treasure of Christ and Your Word. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Timothy 6:6-19 – Godly Contentment

The 9th and 10th commandments can seem somewhat trivial at times, at least on the surface. After all, these are just coveting. It's not like you're killing anyone right? But being content with what the Lord gives connects us back not only into the 1st commandment (covetousness is idolatry), but also with the other commandments. If we are chasing after the things of this life, which we cannot take with us when we die, then we will live lives which are both discontented and ungodly. Instead, we pursue a godly contentment. We pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, and gentleness, and all the other things, as Jesus has promised, will be added to us. *Lord, help me to be content with what You give. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 34 – Praising Through Affliction

The Psalmist starts by noting that the praise of the Lord is always in our mouths. Then he concludes that our afflictions are many and yet, the Lord redeems us. Therefore, even though we may be tempted to think that our afflictions mean that the Lord doesn't love us or that He's forgotten us, this isn't true. In fact, it's the Lord Who not only sends us our afflictions, to turn us to Him and to strengthen us, but it's also the Lord Who redeems us from our afflictions. This is especially on the day of the blessed resurrection where we are raised immortal, imperishable, and with all afflictions staying buried in the grave. For this, we praise the Lord always, even through our afflictions. *Lord, help me to praise You at all times and in all circumstances. Amen.*

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