PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 91:15-16, 1-2, 9-10, 13**

He shall call upon Me, and I will | answer him;* I will deliver him and | honor him.

With long life I will sat- | isfy him,* and show him My sal- | vation."

He who dwells in the secret place of the | Most High* shall abide under the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

I will say | of the Lord,*

"He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him | I will trust."

Because you have made the Lord, who is my | refuge,*

even the Most High, your | dwelling place,

No evil shall be- | fall you,*

nor shall any plague come near your | dwelling.

SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 32:2

"Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit."



PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayer and stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to defend us from those who rise up against us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
God the Father, Be Our Stay

TLH 247, LSB 505 Martin Luther



(verse 1) God the Father, be our Stay,
(v2) Jesus Christ, be Thou our Stay,
(v3) Holy Ghost, be Thou our Stay,
Oh, let us perish never.
Cleanse us from our sins, we pray,
And grant us life forever.
Keep us from the Evil One;
Uphold our faith most holy,

Grant us to trust Thee solely With humble hearts and lowly. Let us put God's armor on: With all true Christians running Our heavenly race and shunning The devil's wiles and cunning. Amen, Amen, this be done, So sing we, Hallelujah!



Around the Word Devotions + March 1-7, 2020

"He Suffered Temptation by Satan"

BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

SAY THE APOSTLES' CREED

I holiovo in God, the Fether Alm

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.

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.

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 March 1-7, 2020

THEME OF THE WEEK: He Suffered Temptation by Satan

Lent is when we journey with Jesus to Holy Week, the Upper Room, His death upon a cross, His rest in the tomb, and His Easter resurrection. There are temptations along the way. This week's temptations are from the father of lies, Satan. Temptation began with Adam and Eve and the same temptation is used against us. We think we know what's better for us than God does. We want to put our fear, love and trust in something, anything, other than God, Who provides all our needs of body and soul. Jesus endured the same temptations, yet He remained without sin for us. In Him we have forgiveness. In that forgiveness, we endure in the face of temptations, receive the crown of life, and will experience the resurrection with joy and thanksgiving.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4:1-11 Temptation in the Wilderness

Jesus was tempted as we are, yet He remained without sin. The devil never really changes tactics. The tempter comes when Jesus is at His physical weakest. In his arrogance, Satan believes that he can convince Jesus to not go to Calvary, to not die, to not be Jesus who "saves His people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21) Yet, in the face of these temptations, Jesus places His fear, love, and trust in the Father. His victory is yours in baptism. *Lord, help us to fear, love and trust in You above all things. Amen.*



SCRIPTURE: Psalm 32 "Blessed Are the Forgiven"

David understood giving in to temptation and the persistent guilt that follows. He penned this psalm after his adultery, murder, and coverup were exposed as the sins that they are by the prophet Nathan. Guilt is intense. His bones were wasting away, guilt was ravaging him like cancer ravages the body. We can understand it because we've felt it. After enough introspection and time under God's Word we could pray the same words. This psalm's use in our liturgy reminds us that God is faithful and just and forgives us our sins in the Absolution. We rejoice in His salvation. Lord, help us to repent and rejoice in our forgiveness. Amen.



SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10 "Now is the Favorable Time"

There is no time to delay. Now, right now we act. Now is the favorable time. Now is the day of our salvation. Now we receive in His grace. This is Lent in a nutshell. Temptations to abandon God will come upon the Christian. Mistreatment is rampant. Yet, we possess everything for salvation in Christ, who endured temptations and overcame them for us. We possess God's grace which is something the world can't understand, so it attacks us. Through Him, we endure all the world can throw at us. We can even find a reason to rejoice in it. Lord, preserve us in the face of temptations to abandon You. Amen.

WED

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 3:1-24 Temptation in the Garden

Adam and Eve gave in to temptation from the serpent to be like God and to make their own way apart from God's Word. They sinned and became enemies of God. All their descendants have inherited their guilt. We fell when they fell. Yet, God in His infinite compassion proclaims the Gospel promise to them and the strictest Law to the serpent. God promised to one day send forth the "seed of the woman." This is fulfilled in Jesus Christ who was tempted as we are, but who overcame and crushed the head of the serpent for us. Lord, forgive us of our sins of thought, word, and deed. Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:24-32 Temptation to Be the Greatest

Jesus just instituted the Lord's Supper proclaiming that this is His body and blood, broken and given, for the forgiveness of sins. And yet, the disciples' flesh leads them into more sin. They fight over who is the greatest! The temptation is to be better than others, to be lord, to be a ruler, to be in charge. What hubris! Man has not changed since the Fall into sin by Adam and Eve. Yet, Jesus continues to serve them. He is the one in charge of our salvation and the forgiveness of our sins and failings when faced with temptations. Lord, keep us steadfast in faith and preserve us in Your Supper. Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: James 1:2-15 Temptation vs. Testing

What makes temptation different from testing? A temptation is from Satan and its purpose is for evil and destruction. He wants to draw you away from God, to doubt and not believe God and His Word. When we give in to these temptations of doubt, we sin and sin brings death. But rest assured, God, tempts no one. Rather, God tests us to increase our faith, love, and trust in Him above all things. Testing is a gift that makes us more reliant upon God and his Word for salvation and less on ourselves. In this, He leads us to the crown of life. Lord, help us to remain steadfast in the face of temptations and to learn to rely on You for all that we need for this life and salvation. Amen.

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 16 Turn to Jesus

We perfume death. We use euphemisms when talking about it. We'll try anything to take our mind off the fact that the flesh of our loved ones is returning to the earth. When faced with this, where does the Christian turn? We turn to Whom Psalm 16 is about, Jesus Christ our Lord. In Jesus alone, we and all the saints will experience the resurrection of the body. Jesus, who sits at the right hand of God the Father, makes this known to us. In His resurrection death, the last enemy to be defeated, dies. *Lord, help us to rejoice in the resurrection knowing that death has no power over us. Amen.*

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