



“He Suffered All the Penalties of Human Sin”

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 22:19, 21, 1, 7-8, 11

But You, O Lord, do not be | far from Me;*
 O My Strength, hasten to | help Me!
 Save Me from the | lion’s mouth*
 and from the horns of the wild | oxen!
 My God, My God, why have You for- | saken Me?*

Why are You so far from | helping Me.
 All those who see Me ridi- | cule Me;*
 they shoot out the lip, they | shake the head.
 They say “He trusted in the Lord, let Him | rescue Him;*”
 let Him deliver Him, since He de- | lights in Him!”
 Be not far from Me, for trou- | ble is near;*

for there is | none to help.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Hebrews 9:12

“[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon Him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross that all mankind should follow the example of His great humility, mercifully grant that we may both be guided by His patience in this life and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, 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
A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

TLH 142, LSB 438
 Paul Gerhardt



1. A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
 The guilt of all men bearing;
 And laden with the sins of earth,
 None else the burden sharing!
 Goes patient on, grow weak and faint,
 To slaughter led without complaint,
 That spotless life to offer;
 Bears shame and stripes, and wounds and
 death,
 Angrily and mockery, and saith,
 "Willing all this I suffer."

4. From morn till eve my theme shall be
 Thy mercy's wondrous measure;
 To sacrifice myself for Thee
 Shall be my aim and pleasure.
 My stream of life shall ever be
 A current flowing ceaselessly,
 Thy constant praise outpouring.
 I'll treasure in my memory,
 O Lord, all Thou hast done for me,
 Thy gracious love adoring.

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: He Suffered All the Penalties of Human Sin

We are in Holy Week, the most sacred time in the church year. We press toward the cross of Jesus, and look to His suffering and death for our redemption and life. On Sunday we hear of His triumphal and humble entry into Jerusalem. Friday is Good Friday. Try to read Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 along with the suggested readings. The crucifixion is the clearest glimpse we have to the heart of God. Those six hours of agony are the bedrock of our salvation. God's wrath is spent on Jesus, not on us. Rejoice! God is for you. His love and mercy are for you. His blood and agony are for you.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 21:1-9 "The Triumphant Entry"

Two words from Psalm 118 preach the theology of Palm Sunday. Hosanna means "Save us now," the cry of the pilgrims who came to Jerusalem to behold the Mediator of the new covenant, the One Who secured our redemption. Blessed describes both the One Who redeemed us with His holy precious blood and innocent suffering and death, and those who receive Him in penitent faith. Both words have special significance today, as the Gospel Lesson and Sanctus join with one voice to preach that Christ is the One Who saves you now, and you, in turn, are blessed as you eat His paschal feast. *Ride on, ride on, in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die. Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain, Then take, O Christ, Thy power and reign (TLH 162.5). Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: John 12:1-23 "The Hour Has Come"

John's Gospel gradually moves from the hour that had not yet come to the hour that finally came. See how some Greeks went up to the feast (v. 20), perhaps Greek-speaking Jews or Greek-speaking Gentiles, with the enduring petition of all who hear the word of the cross: "Sir, we wish to see Jesus" (v. 21). Now, after long ages of prophecy and several preliminary signs in John's narrative, the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified by His death (v. 23). And you join with all the faithful to sing, "This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, the Lamb of God, our Savior" (Hymn of the Week). *Lord, when Your glory I shall see / And taste Your kingdom's pleasure, Your blood my royal robe shall be, My joy beyond all measure (LSB 438.4). Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: John 12:24-43 "The Son of Man Must Be Lifted Up"

Having revealed His name to the Gentiles and focused His attention on the cross, Jesus said that He must be lifted up from the earth to draw all men to Himself. These words echo the story of the bronze serpent in the wilderness, wherein rebellious Israel received healing by beholding the bronze serpent in repentance and faith. Likewise, the Son of Man, lifted high on the cross, bore the curse of all mankind. And now, through the preached word of the cross, He draws all men—yes, even you—to Himself, that you may repent of your sins and receive life, healing, and salvation in His name. *O Lord, to Thee, before Thy Passion, children sang their hymns of praise. To Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise (adapted from TLH 160.4). Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:1-23; 42 "Cup of Suffering, Chalice of Life"

Behold the threefold cup in St. Luke's Passion Narrative! Jesus drank the 'cup' of betrayal as He was handed over into death to pay the full penalty for sin. And you, O Sinner, are set free from sin and eternal death by His captivity. Jesus offered His disciples the very cup of life in the Lord's Supper, full of His own life-giving blood. And you, O Christian, continue to receive this feast of life in the holy chalice. Jesus prayed that the 'cup' of suffering would be removed from Him. But it was the Father's will for the Lamb to go uncomplaining forth, that you, God's baptismal child, might stand righteous before the Father. *Yea, Thy comfort renders sweet / Ev'ry bitter cup I meet; For Thy all-atoning Passion / Has procured my soul's salvation (TLH 144.4). Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 13:1-15 "The Lord Who Serves"

St. Luke tells us that after the institution of the Lord's Supper the disciples disputed with one another as to which of them was the greatest. But Jesus rebuked them and reminded them that the greatest and the leader would be as the youngest who serves. To demonstrate this, He took a towel and a basin filled with water and began to wash the disciples' feet. This is how our Lord loved you and all His own in the world to the end: He served them, ultimately by giving His life as a ransom for you and for all. *Lord Jesus, give us Your Holy Spirit that we may follow Your example of love and service. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: John 18:1-19 "The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John"

Behold how Jesus, the Mediator of a new covenant, endured His Passion to pay the full penalty for sin! He was betrayed by Judas that you might be set free by His captivity. The Son of God was arrested in the garden in order to break the oppression of sin and death that once bound you. Christ was rejected by the unfaithful father-in-law and son team, Annas and Caiaphas, that you might be redeemed by the faithful Son—not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His holy precious blood—and received by your heavenly Father. Jesus was denied by Peter and you, though you have often denied Him, shall be confessed by God the Father as His own dear child from Baptism to the final judgment. *You Who have suffered for us, have mercy upon us! Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 27:57-66 "The Burial of Our Lord"

At evening, the hour of calm and peace, Adam's fall and that of all men was made manifest. At evening, too, the Lord's redeeming love was revealed as He sought Adam and Eve and promised them the new and greater Adam. At evening homeward turned the dove after the flood, bearing an olive branch, betokening the dawn of the new creation. O beauteous time! O evening hour! This evening your peace with God is made sure as Jesus, having entered once for all into the holy places, is laid to rest. *O God, creator of heaven and earth, grant that as the crucified body of Your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with Him the coming of the third day, and rise with Him to newness of life (Collect for Holy Saturday). Amen.*

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