

5

PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 66:1-2, 3, 5, 8-9

Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth! Alle- | luia.\*
Sing out the honor of His name; make His praise glorious. Alle- | luia.
Say to God, "How awesome | are Your works!\*"
Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit them- | selves to You.
Come and see the | works of God;\*
He is awesome in His doing toward the | sons of men.
Oh, bless our God, you | peoples!\*"
And make the voice of His praise | to be heard,
He keeps our soul among the | living,\*
And does not allow our feet | to be moved.

6

SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 146:5

"Happy is the one who has the God of Jacob for his help; whose hope is in the LORD his God."

7

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

8

PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, the heavenly Father who shows the light of truth to those who are in error so that they may return into the way of righteousness, cause all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Church to avoid those things that are contrary to their profession and to follow all such things that are agreeable thereto; through the same 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

Like the Golden Ascending

TLH 207, LSB 548
Thomas Kingo



1. Like the golden sun ascending,
Breaking through the gloom of night,
On the earth his glory spending
So that darkness takes to flight,
Thus my Jesus from the grave
And Death's dismal, dreadful cave
Rose triumphant Easter morning
At the early purple dawning.
2. Thanks to Thee, O Christ victorious!
Thanks to Thee, O Lord of Life!
Death hath now no power o'er us,
Thou hast conquered in the strife.
Thanks because Thou didst arise
And hast opened Paradise!
None can fully sing the glory
Of the resurrection story.

4. Thou hast died for my transgression,
All my sins on Thee were laid;
Thou hast won for me salvation,
On the cross my debt was paid.
From the grave I shall arise
And shall meet Thee in the skies.
Death itself is transitory;
I shall lift my head in glory.
6. For the joy Thy advent gave me,
For Thy holy, precious Word;
For Thy Baptism, which doth save me,
For Thy blest Communion board;
For Thy death, the bitter scorn,
For Thy resurrection morn,
Lord, I thank Thee and extol Thee,
And in heaven I shall behold Thee.



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 is Risen to Give Us Believing Joy

“Happy is the one who has the God of Jacob for his help; whose hope is in the LORD his God” (Psalm 146:5). Happy because we know that death is dead, sin is forgiven, Jesus is raised, and our hope and salvation are sure. We have a profound happiness and joy in Christ, knowing that God has kept His word, destroyed the devil, and restored us to life by the death and resurrection of Jesus. His blood is our righteousness. His death is our life. His resurrection is our hope. His name is our joy. His promises are our hope. Happy, indeed, is the one who has the God of Jacob for their helper.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 16:16-23 The Joy of Resurrection

“A little while” Jesus says, and they will not see Him. He will be dead and buried. But then, “a little while,” and they will see Him. He will rise from the grave and visit His disciples. Then their joy will be complete. Then their prayers will be answered. Then they will know that their Rabbi and Teacher is their Savior and their God. Jesus’ resurrection also gives us joy. We know that sin, death, and the devil no longer own us. We are free from their tyranny. We are forgiven, and on the last day we will rise and stand with Jesus, our Savior and our God, in a life that never ends. *Dear Jesus, give us the joy of Your resurrection as we wait for our own resurrections. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 75 Marked by the Name of God

“O God; we give thanks, for Your name is near.” This is the great joy of the Christian, that we worship a God Who is not far off from us, or Who forbids us to speak His name. Rather He gives us His name to use and to call upon in every trouble, to use in prayer, praise, and thanks. He gives His name to rejoice in. And more than that, He gives us His name to be called by and to be marked with. In our baptism He has placed that name upon us. In the benediction He places His name on us again. Over and over we live and move and have our being as those who are marked with the name of Christ: CHRISTians. And so we rejoice and give thanks, for God’s name is near, in our lips, and upon our heads. *Lord, thank You for marking me with Your name. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 2:11-20 We Are Pilgrims

Peter exhorts his hearers to submit to all manner of earthly authorities and to keep their conduct honorable among unbelievers – *as sojourners and pilgrims*. That is a reminder to us that first, our behavior toward others does have something to do with how God wishes to serve and call others to repentance and faith. And second, that this world is not our home. We are as Christians on pilgrimage to our better home, the reign and kingdom of Christ which is already ours by faith in Christ. *Lord, keep us steadfast throughout our days of pilgrimage, that others may see our works and glorify You because of them. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Lamentations 3:18-26 Wait for the Salvation of the Lord

This chapter is the center of Jeremiah’s five-part lament over impenitent Jerusalem. Hear the full strength of the Law in Jeremiah’s preaching! Jeremiah asks the Lord to remember how his endurance has perished, his hope has vanished, and Jerusalem’s rebellion and coming captivity drive him to sorrow, even as your impenitence leads to false belief, despair, and other shame and vice. “But this I call to mind” (vs. 21) shifts from the Law to the Gospel: “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.” After Babylonian captivity, the Lord will build His new Jerusalem (the church), new walls (salvation), and the new Temple Himself, Jesus Christ. *All that I needed / Thy hand hath provided: Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me (LSB 809). Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 14:1-11 Room in the Father’s House

Jesus says, “I go to prepare a place for you.” What a beautiful text. Jesus promises that His death, resurrection, and ascension make a place for us in the Father’s house. Now, we want to remember that the problem with the Father’s house is not that it wasn’t big enough, like Jesus had to go and convert the garage into a bedroom. The reason there was not a place for us in the Father’s house is because there is not a place there for sin, and I am a sinner. But the death of Jesus forgives our sins. His blood cleanses us from all iniquity. And now there is a place for us. Now the door is open. Now, by His death, by His forgiveness, where He is, we will be also. *Lord Jesus, thank You for preparing a place for me in the Father’s house by Your death and forgiveness. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 4:14-16 He Knows and More: He Saves

The Lord knows what you’re going through because He’s borne it Himself. God became man to suffer for you. But He doesn’t just sympathize in an “aww, that’s tough” kind of way. He draws us near to His throne of grace, that when the burdens of this life and the enemies overwhelm us, we would be given help in every need. The Lord can sympathize with us, but more, what beats us doesn’t beat Him. Not even death. He is risen. He has saved us from that which overwhelms us. He draws us to His side. *O LORD, You know our temptations and pains. Deliver us from evil, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 146 hope Well-Placed

In mankind there is no salvation. In the Lord hope is well placed and blessing is found. For this Lord lifts up those who are bowed down. This Lord gives joy to the sorrowful. This Lord keeps faith forever. He is trustworthy and true. He acts for His beloved. He is gracious. So we, at the end of this week, confess even from crosses and sufferings the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. We praise Him. For suffering produces endurance, endurance character, and character hope. And hope placed in Him will never disappoint. *Lord, I will praise You as long as I live. Amen.*