

“Humble Love of Brothers in Faith”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 119:137, 124, 1-2, 5-6

Righteous are / You, O Lord,*
and upright are Your / judgments.
Deal with Your servant according to Your / mercy,*
and teach me Your / statutes.
Blessed are the undefiled / in the way,*
who walk in the law / of the Lord!
Blessed are those who keep His testi- / monies,*
who seek Him with the / whole heart!
Oh, that my ways were / directed*
to keep Your / statutes!
Then I would not / be ashamed,*
when I look into all Your com- / mandments.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 119: 130a
“The unfolding of Your Words gives light.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
In Thee Alone, O Christ, My Lord

TLH 319
Johannes Schneising



1. In Thee alone, O Christ, my Lord,
My hope on earth remaineth;
I know Thou wilt Thine aid afford,
Naught else my soul sustaineth.
No strength of man, no earthly stay
Can help me in the evil day;
Thou, only Thou, canst aid supply.
To Thee I cry;
On Thee I bid my heart rely.

3. O Lord, in mercy stay my heart
On faith's most sure foundation
And to my inmost soul impart
Thy perfect consolation.
Fill all my life with love to Thee,
Toward all men grant me charity;
And at the last, when comes my end,
Thy succor send.
From Satan's wiles my soul defend.

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 October 1-7, 2023

THEME OF THE WEEK: Humble Love of Brothers in Faith

Light in a dark world... God's Word rings out in that darkness, "Let there be light." So it was in the beginning, so it was when the Son of God took on Himself our flesh and blood, and so it is even now. Jesus, the Word of God made flesh, still comes into this world of darkness and brings light. His light sets us free from the deep darkness. Daily He scatters the darkness from you by crying out into you, into your ears, into your life: "Let there be light."

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:1-11 "Drawn from The Water"

Drowning in your own skin? Can you even imagine? Dropsy meant your body was filled up with excess water - you would literally drown in your own skin. Yet you were always thirsty! You wanted more of the very thing that would kill you. Such is sin. It will kill us - it always does - yet we thirst for more. Take heart! God has drawn you out of the waters that drown you and He uses them to give you life: the life of Jesus, which flows from His pierced side. *Thanks be to You, Jesus, for You have saved me from the deep mire of my sin. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:129-136 (PE) "Life by His Word"

God's Word is life because Jesus is life. Life for every part of you! Your mind, your eyes, your mouth, your feet, they're all mentioned in this portion of Psalm 119. His Word gives light to darkened minds to give lives of understanding. Mouths are opened to sing His praise and to long for His Word. Feet are steadied to walk safely through the uncertainty and shakiness of this world. Eyes are even given new life, even moved to tears because people do not keep God's Law. *"O God, create in me a clean heart, and teach me the joy of living the new life of righteousness." Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:1-6 "The Mind of Christ in You"

Humility? Gentleness? Patience? Bearing with one another? Eager to maintain unity? The sin that held us prisoner wants the exact opposite of every one of them. Pride, harshness, impatience, and so on. Praise God that the Spirit has called you out of that darkness and has given you the mind of Christ and His gifts of humility, gentleness, and patience. In the baptism with which you are baptized, He has brought you from death to life, and the desire to walk in these gifts Jesus has given you! *Lord Jesus, create in me a clean heart, after Your own likeness, in true righteousness and holiness. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 2:1-10 "What Our Ears Hear"

Hannah teaches us to pray rightly, that is, with godly wisdom and true sight. What our eyes see isn't the truth, no matter how true it seems. What we hear from the eternal God, our Lord, that is Truth. Apply Hannah's prayer to your own life. Are you poor, weak, hungry, trampled, killed? Perhaps. But in God's Anointed, Jesus, it is not true. In Jesus you are rich with true riches, made strong with God's own strength, well-fed with food that does not spoil, and raised from death to life. Even now! *God, grant that what our eyes see is overcome by Your Word's promises that our ears hear. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 2:18-28 "Soon, Fellow Believers! Soon!"

When there's a wedding there's rejoicing! A man leaves his father and mother to hold fast to his bride. But then suddenly he is whisked away. The rejoicing turns to restraint and fasting. Rejoicing isn't gone forever, even as restraint isn't forever; bride and groom shall be reunited soon. We are in those days of restraint and fasting until our Lord Jesus returns for us. Then we shall rejoice forever, never to be parted again! Until then, receive often His foretaste and break the fast at His Supper. And soon, soon fellow believers... soon it shall no longer be a foretaste! *Come quickly, Lord Jesus, come quickly to us! Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Jude 20-25 "He Joyously Keeps You"

Can someone lose his salvation? Yes. The darkness is enticing and never stops urging the redeemed to return to it. Can someone obtain his own salvation? No. Salvation belongs to the Lord. (Ps. 3:8) Salvation belongs to the Lord Jesus and by His tender-kindness He keeps you in Himself and guards you from eternal destruction. Hear these promises and believe them. Faith alone holds fast to Christ. So can you be sure of your salvation? Yes. Most assuredly and gloriously: yes. *Gracious Jesus, give me faith to trust that You will, with great joy, keep me until the Last Day and present me blameless before the presence of Your glory! Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 56 "I Shall Not be Afraid"

Since you are the redeemed of Christ, the devil and the unbelieving world are constantly set against you. They were set against David. They hated and rejected Jesus. So of course, they will be set against you. But take heart and remember that You are in Jesus! In Jesus there is nothing that can overcome you. When fear threatens to overwhelm you, let this prayer of David, your brother in faith, be on your lips. Learn with David the comfort of this sweet promise and so pray: *"You, Jesus, have delivered my soul from death, yes, You have delivered my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life." Amen.*

To support the work of these devotions please visit www.whatdoesthismean.org/support

Around the Word Devotions are produced by Around the Word Journal. Visit www.whatdoesthismean.org to sign up for these free devotions. These devotions are free for individual and family use. Questions? Please email aroundtheworddevotions@gmail.com. Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Thank you to sanctus.org and lutheran-hymnal.com for the Collects and Hymns. This week's author is Pastor Hopfensperger. He and Kirsten are blessed with four children: Andrew (and wife Christal), Jacob, Rebekah, and Leah. He serves Peace Lutheran Church in Sandusky, Michigan. (www.peacelutheransandusky.com)