

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Ecclesiasticus 36:16-17a; Psalm 122:1, 6, 8-9**

Give peace, O Lord, to those who / wait for You:*
and let Your prophets be proven / faithful.
Hear the prayer of Your / servants,*
according to the blessing of Aaron upon Your / people.
I was glad when they / said to me,*
“Let us go into the house / of the Lord.”
Pray for the peace of Je- / rusalem:*
“May they prosper who / love you.
For the sake of my brethren and com- / panions,*
I will now say, “Peace be with- / in you.”
Because of the house of the / Lord our God*
I will / seek your good.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 118:144 NKJV**

“The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; Give me understanding, and I shall live.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, forasmuch as without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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
Lord, Thee I Love With All My Heart

TLH 429, LSB 708
Martin Shalling



1. Lord, Thee I love with all my heart;
I pray Thee ne'er from me depart,
With tender mercies cheer me.
Earth has no pleasure I would share,
Yea, heaven itself were void and bare
If Thou, Lord, wert not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break,
My trust in Thee no one could shake.
Thou art the Portion I have sought;
Thy precious blood my soul has bought.
Lord Jesus Christ,
My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust Thy Word.

3. Lord, let at last Thine angels come,
To Abram's bosom bear me home,
That I may die unfearing;
And in its narrow chamber keep
My body safe in peaceful sleep
Until Thy reappearing.
And then from death awaken me
That these mine eyes with joy may see,
O Son of God, Thy glorious face,
My Savior and my Fount of grace,
Lord Jesus Christ,
My prayer attend, my prayer attend,
And I will praise Thee without end.



“Singlehearted Love of God in Christ”

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 September 29-October 5, 2024

THEME OF THE WEEK: Singlehearted Love of God in Christ

This week we dwell on the love of God in Christ Jesus and the impact that has on our lives, namely the fruits that come from faith: faith toward God and fervent love toward one another (post-communion collect). We are redeemed in the cross and resurrection of the Lord Jesus – and that reality, grasped by faith resounds to a newness of life. As you meditate on these passages, think on the love of God and how that love spills over into your life of faith.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 18:1-11 Michaelmas

Today is Michaelmas, the day we give thanks to God for the service of the holy angels. Contrary to popular thought we don't become angels when we die, for the angels are unique creatures made for the service of man and God. Nor are the holy angels the chubby winged babies we see in popular art (think Precious Moments figurines). Rather, angels are God's warrior-messengers, destroying evil Sodom (Gen. 19), fighting Israel's battles (2 Kings 6), doing battle with the unholy angels (Rev. 12), and serving as messengers of the gospel, announcing the birth and the resurrection of Jesus. And they still serve and protect us according to God's will! *Lord Christ, thank You for the protection of the Holy Angels. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:137-144 The Pure Word of God

Your word is very pure; Therefore Your servant loves it. The Holy Bible is the pure fountain of Israel, that from which we drink deeply and are satisfied. When the Christian engages with God's Word, whether that's in these brief devotions, casual reading, or in deep study, we are engaging with God's pure Word for life. That Word has the power to create and sustain faith, for it is by the Word that God wishes to engage with us. Therefore, just as the psalm says, your servant loves it. *The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; Give me understanding, and I shall live. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 1:4-9 God is Faithful

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. It's not uncommon to think God is someone that we ourselves seek after. We hear one say "I've found God!" or that someone is "on a journey toward God". These are well-intentioned. Paul says here, and in so many other places that it is God Who has called us. He has drawn us by the gospel and brought us to Himself. God is the One Who initiates, draws, forgives, and sanctifies. And as Paul says, "God is faithful." He is faithful to you, dear soul. *Lord God, You have called me – never leave me or forsake me. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 10:12-21 A New Heart

Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart... In our passage today, the Lord describes what it is to live according to God's will – administering justice, loving the stranger, loving God above all things. The will of God here though is not mere external things but a matter of the heart. You could have a circumcised man of Israel, doing externally good things and yet his heart might not be conformed to God. When the Lord says to circumcise the foreskin of your heart, this is nothing else but repentance and faith toward God. It is the same for us. Out of a heart of faith comes good works for our neighbor. *Lord, You have given me a new heart. Help me to use it. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 15:1-17 God's Love

As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you... What a remarkable statement! What comfort for the soul! What transport of delight to the despairing and forlorn – that the love with which the Father loves the Son, the love shared between the members of the Holy Trinity, is the very love that Jesus extends to us. You are not forsaken or abandoned, but loved with an everlasting love in Christ. And what are we to do? *Abide in my love* says Jesus. That love which God has given will spill over in your own life, causing you to bear fruit as you abide in God's love. *Lord, thank You for Your love. Let me also bear fruit and love others. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 3:1-8 God's Child

He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. The Christian soul which has been set free from sin and death by Jesus, does not want to keep on sinning. We would deceive ourselves in thinking that we do not have to make a clean break from our old ways of sinning and also remain in Christ. This does not mean that we do not have sins of which we repent daily, as we do in the Lord's Prayer, but that we hate those sins and wish to be free of them. There is indeed a new life of faith in which the Christian delights in being a child of God (vss. 1,2). *Lord, You have forgiven me freely! Help me to live as Your child. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 54 Prayer for Deliverance

Save me, O God, by Your Name, and vindicate me by Your strength. The Christian will always be beset by enemies, namely our flesh, the world, and the devil. Our flesh rebels against God and His ways, the world entices us away from trusting in God alone, and the devil wishes to destroy both us and our faith. And these will harass and plague the Christian soul until the Lord calls us home. And so we pray to the Lord for deliverance. Take up the holy name of Jesus and pray for salvation. *Behold, God is my helper; The Lord is with those who uphold my life. Amen.*

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