

“The Hearing and Speaking Wrought by the Spirit”



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 70:1-2, 4, 5**

Make haste, O God, to de- / liver me!\*  
 Make haste to help / me, O Lord!  
 Let them be ashamed and con- / founded\*  
 who / seek my life.  
 Let them be turned back / and confused\*  
 who de- / sire my hurt.  
 Let all those who seek / You rejoice\*  
 and be / glad in You.  
 But I am poor and / needy;\*  
 make haste to / me, O God!  
 You are my help and my de- / liverer;\*  
 O Lord, do / not delay.

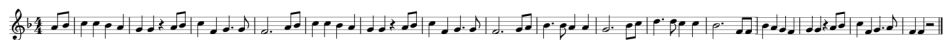
**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Isaiah 29:24**  
 “These also who erred in spirit will come to understanding, and those who complained will learn doctrine.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK  
 Almighty and merciful God, whose gift it is that Your faithful possess all things pertaining to faith and life, we implore You that we may so faithfully cling to Your promises in this life that we fail not finally to attain to Your heavenly glory; through 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  
**Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth** TLH 296, LSB 589  
 Anna Sophia of Hesse



<p>1. Speak, O Lord, Thy servant heareth,              To Thy Word I now give heed;              Life and spirit Thy Word beareth,              All Thy Word is true indeed.              Death's dread power in me is rife;              Jesus, may Thy Word of Life              Fill my soul with love's strong fervor              That I cling to Thee forever.</p> <p>3. Lord, Thy words are waters living              Where I quench my thirsty need;              Lord, Thy words are bread life-giving,              On Thy words my Soul doth feed.</p>	<p>Lord, Thy words shall be my light              Through death's vale and dreary night;              Yea, they are my sword prevailing              And my cup of joy unfailling.</p> <p>4. Precious Jesus, I beseech Thee,              May Thy words take root in me;              May this gift from heaven enrich me              So that I bear fruit for Thee!              Take them never from my heart              Till I see Thee as Thou art,              When in heavenly bliss and glory              I shall greet Thee and adore Thee.</p>
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**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: The Hearing and Speaking Wrought by the Spirit**

Complaining runs amok among those who “err in spirit” and refuse to understand the work of the Spirit through the revealed Word of God. This complaining happens both against the ministry of the letter as well as against the ministry of the Spirit. Still, God speaks, and it is done. By the Word of Christ the deaf are made to hear and the mute are made to speak (Mark 7:37). Faith grabs hold of this Word and trusts that it is true, that it teaches us, and that it saves us. We learn doctrine and come to understand (Isaiah 29:24). The same Spirit who causes us to hear also causes us to trust that this Jesus atoned for our sin on the wood of the cross, and saves us by His grace through our faith in Him.

SUN

**SCRIPTURE: Mark 7:31-37: Making us Hear and Speak**

Jesus heals the lame, the blind, and the sick. He makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak. His Word that is heard also brings the faith that saves (Romans 10:17). His Spirit is not separated from His Word, but comes with His Word and brings about the glorious mystery of faith. Jesus does not heal in order to receive attention (Mark 7:36). Jesus heals so that faith would spread, so that salvation would be wrought by the Word He speaks and the Spirit He gives. This salvation comes to us at so great a cost: the body and blood of Him who died on the cross and gives His Spirit in His Word. Our ears are opened to hear His truth, and to speak His praise, to the glory of His name. *Jesus, continue causing us to hear Your word and speak by Your Spirit. Amen.*

MON

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 199:89-96 (LAMEDH): The Everlasting Word**

The Word of the Lord is a forever Word. It does not pass away. It does not get outdated. It does not change. Both the world and man do change. Cultures shift and sway. Man is like a flower that grows and then fades away, like a sand foundation that cannot stand, nor endure. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides (v. 90). The Word of the Lord, whether it condemns our sins and kills our pride, or lifts us up in salvation, is our only sure and certain hope, that which we are called to love. Unless Your law had been my delight, I would then have perished in my affliction (v. 92). His precepts have given us life. *Lord, keep us in the love of Your word of condemnation and Your word of forgiveness. Amen.*

TUE

**SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 3:4-11: The Life-Giving Spirit**

What the letter does in condemning our sin through the ministry of death, the Spirit does in giving us life through the ministry of the New Covenant. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life (2 Corinthians 3:6). The letter kills for a good and holy reason: we must have our sin killed, our pride buried, our condemnation put to rest. We have such trust through Christ toward God (2 Corinthians 3:4). The ministry of the Spirit is more glorious. It rescues us from sin, death, and the power of the devil and makes us new men who trust in Christ and desire to do His will. The promise and fulfillment of Christ’s death on the cross has brought in the ministry of righteousness (2 Corinthians 3:9). *God, kill our sins and make us alive in Your Son Jesus. Amen.*

WED

**SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 29:18-19: Hearing the Words of the Book**

The prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled in the deaf and mute man of Mark 7:31-37. In that day the deaf shall hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness (Isaiah 29:18). Isaiah does not speak of merely physical deafness, but of a deafness that does not and cannot hear the Word of the Lord. Only the Spirit, through and in the Word, can open deaf ears, open blind eyes, and open mute mouths. Our joy is in the Lord, who made heaven and earth, the promised One of old, who took on human flesh and gave His life as the sacrifice for all sin. His Word and Spirit give life out of death, restoring us to Himself through our hearing in faith. *Lord, increase our joy in You through hearing Your Words. Amen.*

THU

**SCRIPTURE: Matthew 12:31-42: Repentance through Preaching**

There is power in the preaching of the Word, both because of the men who are called by God to preach, and because the Word that is preached is not the Word that originates with man, but originates and comes from God and His Spirit. The men of Nineveh were granted the authority to condemn the later generation because they repented at the preaching of Jonah (v. 41). Jonah, as did other men called to preach the word, pointed to the One greater than Himself, the Son of Man who died on the cross for all sin and forgives sins committed against Himself. Yet, the Son of Man forgives sins by the Holy Spirit. If anyone sins against the Holy Spirit, he is not forgiven (v. 32). *Son of Man, keep and protect us from sinning against Your Spirit, by repentance. Amen.*

FRI

**SCRIPTURE: James 3:1-12: The Tongue and the Body**

Who would have thought that the little member of our body, our tongue, is guilty of such great sins!? The tongue determines what the body does. For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body (v. 2). Yet, how often does this occur? The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell (v. 6). There could be and would be no controlling and disciplining of our tongues were it not for the Spirit who abides with us through the word and faith in Jesus, the Word who became flesh and conquered all iniquity on the cross. *God our Father, bridle our tongues with Your abiding Spirit. Amen.*

SAT

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 104: Caring for Everything**

It is not an overstatement to say that the Lord cares for creation and everything in it. “He has made the clouds His chariot and He walks on the wings of the wind” (v. 3). He laid the foundations of the earth, and it is not moved forever (v. 5). The Lord our creator is the Lord our Savior, whose glory endures forever. Just as everything and everyone lives and moves and has their being because of Him, so also is it that everyone who is saved by His grace through His Spirit has the forgiveness of sins because of His death on the cross. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth (v. 30). We sing our praises to God “while we have our being” (v. 33). *Lord, continue upholding Your creation by Your Son. Amen.*

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