



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 86:1-3, 4, 6, 15-16**

Bow down Your ear, O Lord, / hear me;*
 You are my God; save Your servant who / trusts in You!
 Be merciful to / me, O Lord,*
 for I cry to You / all day long.
 Rejoice the soul of Your / servant,*
 for to You, O Lord, I lift / up my soul.
 Give ear, O Lord, / to my prayer;*
 and attend to the voice of my suppli- / cations.
 You, O Lord, are a God full of com- / passion,*
 oh, turn to me, and have mercy up- / on me!
 Give Your strength to Your / servant,*
 and save the son of Your / maidservant.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 119:116**

“Uphold me according to Your promise, that I may live, and let me not be put to shame in my hope!”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church, and because she cannot continue in safety without Your help, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; 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 God, My Faithful God

TLH 526, LSB 745
 Sigismund Weingartner



1. In God, my faithful God,
 I trust when dark my road;
 Tho' many woes o'ertake me,
 Yet He will not forsake me.
 His love it is doth send them
 And, when 'tis best, will end them.

2. My sins assail me sore,
 But I despair no more.
 I build on Christ, who loves me;
 From this Rock nothing moves me.
 To Him I all surrender,
 To Him, my soul's Defender.

3. If death my portion be,
 Then death is gain to me
 And Christ my Life forever,
 From whom death cannot sever.
 Come when it may,
 He'll shield me,
 To Him I wholly yield me.

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 8-14, 2024

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Confidence in God Wrought by the Spirit

How are we to live in this world that is crumbling around us? With confidence. But that doesn't just mean "having a firm resolve." Confidence is a gift from God. He has given you life. You have confidence that He is your God. He has redeemed your life by the gift of His Son Jesus Christ, and you have confidence that He loves you with a saving, sacrificial love. He has brought you into this good news and faith by the Holy Spirit. You have confidence that He who began this good work in you will see it through to completion at the Last Day. How, then, are we to live? As those who live with confidence that passes all human understanding. Like a city on a hill, or a light in the dark, your confidence is given to you for your good and as a witness to those around you.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:24-34 "But, Tomorrow!"

Worrying about tomorrow must certainly come as a result of the Fall. When everything is given to you and whatever you need is provided how could you ever worry? What a great existence Adam and Eve must have had! But don't you see? God's providing for you hasn't changed; the Fall didn't change that. The only thing that has changed is that now, because of sin, we don't think God cares for us or is able to provide. *Create in us clean hearts, O God, so that we may truly trust in Your gracious providence! Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Ps 119, fifteenth part (SAMEKH v113-120) "Yesterday and Tomorrow... Today"

The Word of the Lord gives you life and sustains it: past, present, and future. (We can see all three in verse 116.) God has promised life and salvation for you in His Son Jesus Christ. His promise upholds you now in the present and unto all eternity. This truth is our great hope. (Hope is the assurance which God has promised, that simply has not yet happened. But it will.) Our hope is the Word of the Lord, and in it we are not put to shame: past, future, or even in the present. *Lord God, sustain me now in Your promise, even to all eternity! Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 5:25-6:10 "Life by the Spirit"

How could we ever produce all those good things that Paul speaks of in our reading? And for sure, we cannot. You cannot. Not according to the flesh anyway. The flesh doesn't want to be turned anywhere but inward. But Jesus has set you free from that. He has re-created you in His own image and given you His Spirit. And with His own Spirit dwelling in you, He cleanses the heart to love truly: God (with your whole mind, heart, and strength) and others (even as you love yourself.) *Holy Spirit, work in me Your great gifts of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, self-control. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 6:4-7 "Upon Your Heart"

Before sin, we didn't need the command to love God. Loving Him was as natural as loving any good thing. After the Fall, though, we need this Word of instruction: the LORD our God is He who made us and has redeemed us to be His own. We need to be reminded to teach this truth to our children. This instruction, ability, strength, and even desire is given to us by the Holy Spirit, God's gift to us in Holy Baptism. *We thank You, Christ: new life is ours, new light, new hope, new strength, new powers. This grace our every way attend until we reach our journey's end. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:38-42 "The One Necessity"

Necessity or desire: we often get them confused. We may *desire* new shoes, but they're probably not a necessity unless the old ones have fallen apart. We might *desire* a milkshake, but it's not a necessity. Martha was distracted with much serving. To her it seemed a necessity - but the only necessity is receiving from the Lord Jesus. *He* is the One Who came to serve; *He* came to give. We receive from Him, are served by Him. Such is faith worked by the Holy Spirit! Receiving all that Jesus gives. *Giver of grace, descend from high; Your sevenfold gifts to us supply; help us eternal truths receive and practice all that we believe. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Acts 8:26-39 "Mouths Opened"

The devil slithered in and offered up the sweet-tasting fruit of rebellion. It has only ever since soured ears and mouths from hearing or speaking the Word of God. Thanks be to God, Jesus comes to destroy sin and the works of the devil! He does this by closing His mouth to all the accusations and condemnation that should have been ours and opening His mouth to give us His Holy Spirit-filled Word of life. This is the confidence and good news that opened Philip's mouth to speak to the eunuch. *Lord Jesus, give me confidence to speak the message of salvation to those around me. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 34 "Magnify the LORD with Me"

As all the psalms are, Psalm 34 is the word of Jesus. He is the One Who truly blesses the LORD at all times. He is the One Who truly has the praise of the LORD in His mouth at all times. And He gathers us to Himself and says, *"Oh, magnify the LORD with Me! Let us exalt His name together!"* (v. 3) What joy! Think of that. Jesus brings you with Him to the Father. Whenever Jesus prays He takes you with Him; whenever you pray you are never alone. In Jesus the ears of the LORD are turned toward your cry! *Lord Jesus, teach my soul to ever make its boast in You. Amen.*

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