

“Submission to the Lord of Compassion”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 47:1-2, 3, 6-8**

Oh, clap your hands, all you / peoples!*
 Shout to God with the voice of / triumph!
 For the Lord Most High is / awesome;*
 He is a great King over / all the earth.
 He will subdue the peoples / under us,*
 and the nations un - / der our feet.
 Sing praises to God, sing / praises!*
 Sing praises to our King, sing / praises!
 For God is the King of / all the earth;*
 sing praises with under- / standing.
 God reigns over the / nations;*
 God sits on His / holy throne.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 103:13**

“As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, whose never-failing providence orders all things both in heaven and earth, we humbly implore You to put away from us all hurtful things and give to us those things that be profitable for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
All Depends on Our Possessing

TLH 425, LSB 732
 Unknown



1. All depends on our possessing
 God's abundant grace and blessing,
 Though all earthly wealth depart.
 He who trusts with faith unshaken
 In His God is not forsaken
 And e'er keeps a dauntless heart.

2. He who hitherto hath fed me
 And to many joys hath led me,
 Is and ever shall be mine.
 He who did so gently school me,
 He who still doth guide and rule me,
 Will remain my Help divine.

4. When with sorrow I am stricken,
 Hope my heart anew will quicken,
 All my longing shall be stilled.
 To His loving-kindness tender
 Soul and body I surrender;
 For in Him alone I build.

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: Submission to the Lord of Compassion

Jesus has compassion on his church. This is great comfort since the saints' confession of faith results in being rejected by the world. Everything they used to fear, love, and trust is taken away. Their faith could cost them family, friends, homes, livelihoods, and certainly the fellowship of false churches. But rejection in the world doesn't mean that Jesus forgets and abandons his church. He cares for the saints' bodies as well as their souls. Jesus will give them daily bread. If their souls need strengthening, he will feed them with his promises. By his compassion he redeems them from sin. By his compassion he continues to give them hope of eternal life.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Mark 8:1-9 "Miraculous Bread in Desolate Places"

The devil traps our hearts in nets of worry. He says that our faithful confession will cost too much, that it shouldn't hurt so much, that we ought to be friends and not enemies with the world. He'll make us afraid of losing everything, but what he won't say is that it will come at the cost of our souls. Remember that in addition to spiritual goods, the Father gives daily bread in the most desolate moments of life. The Holy Spirit recorded this history of Jesus feeding the 4,000 to teach you this. Just as Jesus was able to provide for those who loved him and his Word, so he'll provide for you. Jesus died to obtain the Father's kindness for you. No devil or desolation can take that compassion away. "Give us this day our daily bread." Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:49-56 "Remember Your Word"

The Lord promises, "You are righteous for my Son's sake (Philippians 3:9). He died in your place (John 1:29). He suffered my wrath against your sin (Isaiah 53:5). His righteousness is yours as a gift, by grace (Ephesians 2:8). You are my child (Galatians 4:5). I have called you to be my own in the waters of baptism (Mark 16:16)." These promises are your comfort in affliction. These are the promises that give you life. When wicked men deride you, turn away from neither the promises nor the law. Don't let their sins justify your own transgressions. Remember the Lord's name. Remember his promises. He is faithful and the hope off all who trust in Him. "Remember your word to your servant, in which you have made me hope." Amen.

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:19-23 "Slaves to Impurity and Slaves to Righteousness"

Having been made righteous by faith, our whole manner of life is changed. The old thoughts we used to think are changed to reflect the mind of Christ. We begin to see his creation through his eyes rather than through the old eyes that neither fear God nor trust in him. We treat our neighbor with love rather than with anger and contempt. We uphold parents, authorities, marriages, property, reputations, and learn contentedness with all the gifts God has lavished upon us. This is what St. Paul means by presenting our bodies, our members, as "slaves of righteousness leading to sanctification." Sin leads to death. But, the free gift of God, our rebirth and renewal, leads to eternal life. Grant that I present myself as a slave to righteousness, heavenly Father." Amen.

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:23-25 "Words that Bless God"

What we say reflects the state of our souls. When we can only speak of our pain, poverty, anger, and shame, then it reveals what we believe about ourselves and the lives God has given us. We fall into the temptation of breaking the 9th and 10th commandments. We should acknowledge suffering when it comes, of course. But we shouldn't ignore and remain silent to how richly we've been blessed in Christ. For his Son's sake, God fills your mouth with words that praise the mercy poured out upon you in baptism, the absolution, and the Supper of His Son's body and blood. If you still have trouble, speak to your pastor. Call up a Christian friend. Take comfort when the tell you about Jesus. "Replenish my languishing soul, O Lord." Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 10:24-31 "Of More Value Than Sparrows"

It's enough for Christians to be like Jesus. If our Lord has been called the prince of demons, how can we expect to escape the world's enmity? Don't be afraid. No manmade plot, no demonic power, and not even the frailty of your flesh will rob you of the Father's love. Their schemes are exposed by the light of Jesus' Word. When the light of the Father's mercy shines on our enemy's weapons of sin and death, their traps come to nothing. The world always reacts badly to this. They heap malice upon malice. But the Lord remembers you. If He knows when one of his sparrows fall from the air, how much more does He remember you for whom His Son has died? "Remember me, O Lord, and give me the light of your promises to comfort me." Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Acts 14:8-23 "Through Many Tribulations We Must Enter the Kingdom of God"

Jesus said to Ananias when Paul was first converted, "I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name" (Acts 9:16). In Lystra, Paul saw a cripple who believed the Gospel. To confirm the power of the Word, Paul told the man to stand up and walk. Immediately, this good work is met with near idolatry from the Greeks and hatred from the Jews. He was stoned and left for dead. It's not a low point. Christ's power was manifest by his refusal to give up. St. Paul says, "I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses so that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (2 Cor. 12:9). In weakness we suffer, but praise God that his power to save by his Word and Faith rests on his strength and not our own. "Strengthen me by your Word, O Lord." Amen.

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 125 "Mount Zion Cannot Be Moved"

The psalm may be interpreted thus: Mt. Zion is the holy Christian church in both Testaments. It is the people of God who are made righteous by hearing the promise of the Savior's sacrifice for their sin and believing it. On this holy mountain there is stability, strength, and steadfast love from God. His Word builds the walls. His Promises establish the palisades and gates that shut the enemies out. The scepter of wickedness is the devil's dominion of fear, sin, and death. He has no power on Mount Zion. His scepter is smashed and useless. Jesus reigns here. His scepter gives forgiveness, life, and salvation to his saints. He makes them righteous and upright in heart. "Give peace to your Israel, O Lord, and keep us in your Son's kingdom." Amen.

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