PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK  Psalm 44:23, 25-26, 1-3, 7-8
Awake! Why do You | sleep, O Lord?*  
Arise! Do not cast us off for | ever. 
For our soul is bowed down | to the dust;*  
arise for our help and re- | deem us. 
We have heard with our | ears, O God,*  
our fathers have told us the deeds You did in | days of old: 
You drove out the nations | with Your hand,*  
but you planted our fathers because you | favored them. 
You have saved us from our | enemies,*  
and have put to shame those who | hated us. 
In God we boast | all day long,*  
and praise Your name for | ever.

BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK 2 Timothy 4:3
“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” 2 Timothy 4:3

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

PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
O God, because You know that we dare not put our trust in anything that we do, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
May God Bestow on Us His Grace

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.

1. May God bestow on us His grace,  
With blessings rich provide us, 
And may the brightness of His face 
To life eternal guide us  
That we His saving health may know, 
His gracious will and pleasure, 
And also to the heathen show 
Christ's riches without measure 
And unto God convert them.

2. Thine over all shall be the praise 
And thanks of every nation, 
And all the world with joy shall raise 
The voice of exultation; 
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord, 
Nor suffer sin to flourish; 
The people's pasture is Thy Word 
Their souls to feed and nourish, 
In righteous paths to keep them.
Lord, make me a child of Your kingdom and fill my ears with Your Word and speak to his children? With words. Clear and true words. The faith of thanks the Father that He has revealed Himself to little children and has hid-
dom of heaven, put His hands upon them and blessed them. Here our Lord
tures, so that we would hear what He has to say to us, believe in Christ, and
His own finger, so it is that He has given to us the prophetic and apostolic Scrip-
tures - The Bible. Even as our God gave Moses the tablets on Sinai written with
His name.

Our Lord loves children. He pointed to a child as the greatest in the king-
dom of heaven, put His hands upon them and blessed them. Here our Lord
thanks the Father that He has revealed Himself to little children and has hid-
den Himself from the so-called wise of this world. The wisdom of this world is
truly folly, and the foolishness of the cross is the power of God. How does a lov-
ing father speak to his children? With words. Clear and true words. The faith of
a child trusts the word of his father. The Christian trusts the sure Word of God.
Lord, make me a child of Your kingdom and fill my ears with Your Word and
promises. Amen.

The Lord God spoke the world into existence. He used His word, the divine
Son, to do so. The world and all that is in it belongs to Him, for He made it. And
yet, the Lord does not summon to come and identify with His creation. He who
made the seas and established the rivers, also assumes creation in the enlarg-
ment of the divine Word in Jesus Christ. The King of Glory, the Lord of Hosts,
have come in. He is with us. Emmanuel. And so we praise Him. King of Glory,
You were lifted up in glory on the tree for us. Bring us to Your final glory in
heaven. Amen.

What our natural eyes see is only meaningless hardship and suffering. The
eyes of faith, trusting in the promises of Christ, sees the hand of God even in the
midst of things we do not understand. In this way St. Paul is able to boast of his
weaknesses, his persecution, his suffering - for in his weakness he is strong in
the Lord. The power of Christ is one's only power and confidence, and not one's
success, prestige, or piety. Whether we have joy or sorrow, we are the Lord's, and
the Lord does not break His promises. Lord, help me to see Your gracious work-
ings in the things that I do not understand. Amen.

God makes things. He makes good things. He sends rain from heaven to wa-
ter the earth, making all manner of food for man and beast. But He also rains
down His Word. And what does the Word do? It makes things too! It washes
hearts clean in Holy Baptism. It enters ears and takes root in us through
preaching and meditation on the Word. It hides Body and Blood in mere bread
and wine. God’s Word does what it says. God wants His Word preached and
heard - for to these He has bound Himself that you would know Him, and that
by believing you would have life in His Name. Lord Jesus, Word of God, rain
down Your Word upon us always. Amen.

God breathed on Adam and he came alive. So it is that the Holy Scriptures,
breathed out by God make men alive in the Spirit. By hearing them, our faith is
created and strengthened. The prophetic and apostolic writings of the Holy
Scripture are God’s authoritative Word to us. They are “God-breathed!” Why
would we need anything else? A pope? A council? A gut-feeling? These come and
go, subject to all manner of confusion and error. But the Word of the Lord en-
dures forever. To trust God’s Word alone is to trust alone in God.
Lord God, I praise You for the gift of Your Scriptures to us. Open my ears to
hear them. Amen.

God is good. We are not. But the Lord is mercy and shows forgiveness to us,
His wayward children. This is the consistent Law and Gospel refrain from the
Psalter, especially here in Psalm 25. Knowing his sin and guilt, King David nev-
ertheless has boldness and faith to confess his sin to God and relies on His mercy
to redeem him from his troubles. It is the cry of faith which asks God not only to
forgive, but to bring us to remembrance of His ways and to teach us His paths.
This is the justifying faith which rests and waits in the Lord.
Lord, I know that I can come to You with anything. Forgive me my sins and
teach me Your ways. Amen.

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Scripture: Matthew 11:25-30 – Being a Child of God

Psalm 24 – The Earth belongs to the King of Glory

2 Corinthians 11:19 – The Eyes of Faith

Isaiah 55:10-13 – God’s Effective Word

Mark 4:26-32 – The Mystery of the Word

2 Timothy 3:10-4:5 – The God-Breathed Word

Psalm 25 – Teach Me Your Paths

Psalm 24

2 Corinthians 11:19

Isaiah 55:10-13

Mark 4:26-32

2 Timothy 3:10-4:5

Psalm 25

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