

“God Manifested in the Youth of Jesus”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Isaiah 6:1. Revelation 19:6; Psalm 100:1-5**

I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and | lifted up,*
 And the train of His robe filled the | temple.
 And I heard the voice of a great multitude, | saying,*
 “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omni- | potent reigns!
 Make a joyful shout to the Lord, | all you lands!*
 Serve the Lord with | gladness;
 Know that the Lord, | He is God;*
 it is He who has made us, and not | we ourselves;
 enter into His gates with thanks- | giving,*
 and into His | courts with praise.
 For the Lord is good; His mercy is ever- | lasting,*
 and His truth endures to all gener- | ations.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Exodus 34:6**
 “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and
 abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
 Lord, we implore You, give ear to our prayers and lighten the darkness of our
 hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You now live and reign with the
 Father 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 **O Jesus, King of Glory** TLH 130
Martin Behm



1. O Jesus, King of Glory,
 Both David's Lord and Son!
 Thy realm endures forever,
 In heaven is fixed Thy throne.
 Help that in earth's dominions,
 Throughout from pole to pole,
 Thy reign may spread salvation
 To each benighted soul.

6. And bid Thy Word within me
 Shine as the fairest star;
 Keep sin and all false doctrine
 Forever from me far.
 Help me confess Thee truly
 And with Thy Christendom
 Here own Thee King and Savior
 And in the world to come.

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 January 12-18, 2020

THEME OF THE WEEK: God Manifested in the Youth of Jesus

"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of Christ." The Lord Jesus as a boy grew in faith no differently than we did. He was strengthened by the Holy Spirit at work in the Word of God. Unlike us, however, He did not grow for His own benefit, but for our sakes. The Scriptures with their teachings are the source of our life, the foundation of our complaints, the confidence for us and those around us who remain in darkness. The Scriptures reveal who our God is: the Lord of mercy, Who gives His Son into death to atone for our sins. The catechism shows Him to be a God like no other; and He is ours.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:41-52—Of the Father's Will and Word

"About His Father's house or His Father's business," that is how the boy Jesus' response may be understood. They belong together because the Father's business is revealed in His house, the Temple. It is His wish to make atonement for sinners so that He may meet graciously with them to give His blessing. In Christ, the new Temple made without hands, this will be done once and for all. Here the Son of God learns as we all do from the Holy Scriptures what the will of God is. And His will, business, and the purpose of His house is forgiveness and life. *Lord, let me learn and grow in Your Word. Amen*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 13—Divine Complaint Department

Will you forget me forever, Lord? How long? These are words of lament. Many people have taught us that we should not question or complain to God. The Psalms teach differently. It is a godly thing to bring prayers of sorrow and even frustration before God. Most everyone enjoys complaining—to everyone but the person whom it concerns. God is the one who can do something about our struggles, especially those deep in body, soul, and mind. Bring your complaint to Him. And add to it faith: *Lord, hear my complaint, strengthen my trust in Your mercy, and restore the joy of Your salvation. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:1-5—Dumb Without the Scriptures

Even speechless, motionless idols are able to lead astray the darkened pagan mind of sinful humanity. That's how foolish sin makes us. We require the leadership of the Holy Spirit constantly because we cannot be left to ourselves. But where does the Spirit speak? He speaks in the Holy Scriptures. And the Spirit will not, nor can He contradict Himself. The Scriptures must be our touchstone, therefore. They are not mute, but full of the Spirit's truth. Beware anyone who contradicts them, but do not be surprised. *Lord, renew in me Your Holy Spirit and preserve me from the spirit of darkness and idolatry. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-3—Christ Jesus

In Greek, Christ; in Hebrew, Messiah; in English, Anointed. This title is important because it shows that Jesus has an office, with duties that must be done. In particular, He *proclaims the year of the Lord's favor*; that is, God's grace through His *fulfillment of all righteousness*. We call people "messiahs" in hopes that they live up to the title. God, not us, appointed Jesus. He will live up to His Names. Above all, His name is "Jesus," because He saves His people from their sins. This is His task and office as the Christ for us. *Lord, anoint me with righteousness and gladness to be Your Christian. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:13-16—Faith Like a Little Child

Jesus (who was a child) loves children. That is a fine posture to imitate. But Jesus wants us also to imitate the faith of a child. Yes, infants and children have faith! They trust in God from the womb and the breast; they believe in Jesus and God wants none of them to be harmed. Faith is not a matter of personal strength and willpower; it is a matter of depending on the One who promises because He is faithful and will surely do it. That is how we enter and receive the Kingdom—as an inheritance, whether young or old. *Lord, remove all hindrances from us that we may abide in Your blessing. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:1-4—Take Your Catechism to Heart!

We see the boy Jesus gladly learning His catechism in the Temple. If the Lord must do this, we cannot think ourselves wiser. Parents may teach many lessons for life, but the most important instruction is in *the fear and instruction of the Lord*. The father, so long as there is one, is the head of the household by God's order. And notice for what purpose this is true: not provoking children (or wives) to anger, but to *bring up* and to *teach* the family. Father and mother are to answer their child's good questions, so that the child may also answer in turn. *Give us fathers after Your own heart, Heavenly Father! Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 86—None Like Him Among the gods

The nations the Lord made will come to Him. This was a comfort to Israel who had to fight for survival against many nations; it was comforting to the prophets and to St. Paul because it proclaimed the salvation of the Gentiles that would come in Christ. It remains comforting for us. The whole world is in the Lord's hands and care, not only to preserve it, but also by the Word and His Spirit, to save it in Christ. He has not given up on the heathen yet! His patience is not slow but merciful. He is slow only to anger; He abounds in steadfast love and faithfulness. *Lord, unite my heart to fear Your name. Amen.*

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