

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 66:4, 92:1; 66:1-5, 20

All the earth shall | worship You,\*  
and sing praises to | You, O God.  
They shall sing praises | to Your name;\*  
to Your name, | O Most High.  
Make a joyful shout to God, | all the earth!\*  
Sing out the honor of His name; make His praise | glorious.  
Say to God, "How awesome | are Your works!\*"  
All the earth shall sing prais- | es to You."  
Come and see the | works of God:\*  
He is awesome in His doing toward the | sons of men.  
Blessed be God, who has not turned a- | way my prayer,\*  
nor His mercy | from me!

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Luke 19:10  
"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK  
Almighty and everlasting God, Governor of all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear the supplications of Your people and grant us Your peace in our time; 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  
**Of the Father's Love Begotten**

TLH 98, LSB 384  
Aurelius C. Prudentius



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| <p>1. Of the Father's love begotten<br/>Ere the worlds began to be,<br/>He is Alpha and Omega,<br/>He the Source, the Ending He,<br/>Of the things that are, that have been,<br/>And that future years shall see<br/>Evermore and evermore.</p> <p>3. O ye heights of heaven, adore Him;<br/>Angel hosts, His praises sing;<br/>Powers, dominions, bow before Him<br/>And extol our God and King.<br/>Let no tongue on earth be silent,<br/>Every voice in concert ring<br/>Evermore and evermore.</p> | <p>2. This is He whom Heaven-taught singers<br/>Sang of old with one accord;<br/>Whom the Scriptures of the prophets<br/>Promised in their faithful word.<br/>Now He shines, the Long-expected;<br/>Let creation praise its Lord<br/>Evermore and evermore.</p> <p>4. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,<br/>And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee<br/>Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving<br/>And unending praises be,<br/>Honor, glory, and dominion,<br/>And eternal victory<br/>Evermore and evermore.</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.

## Around the Word Devotions + the week of January 14-20, 2018

### THEME OF THE WEEK: God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create

Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal. He turns the water to wine. He seeks and saves the lost. He loves us with such a profound love that He not only saves us for ourselves, but He even makes us helpful to each other. He teaches us to fear, love, and trust in God above all things, knowing that He works all things together for our good. In His presence is fullness of joy, and He walks with us on the path of life that has no end. This week we give thanks to Jesus who shows Himself, in every way, to be our Savior and our Friend.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: John 2:1-11, The Last Words of Mary

"Whatever He says to you, do it." These are the last recorded words of Mary in the Bible. She is with Jesus at the wedding in Cana; there is no wine, but Jesus is there, and Mary knows that when Jesus is around, everything will be okay. So she says to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it." Jesus, then, directs the servants to fill up the water pots, and He turns that water into wine, exceptionally good wine. "Whatever He says..." This is good advice from Mary for us. We listen to the voice of Jesus, we do what He says, and we believe what He promises. And we know that when Jesus is around, everything will be okay.

*Lord Jesus, give us Your Holy Spirit so that we trust Your words and promises. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 14: The Fool and His Godless Heart

"The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'" The Scriptures teach us that the beginning of wisdom is the fear of the LORD (see Proverbs 9:10). When we know God and His Law, the Ten Commandments, wisdom has begun. If we do not know God, or if we say we don't, the Bible identifies us as "fools." But the fear of God is only wisdom's start, the Bible wants us to love and trust in God above all things. This is the middle and the end of wisdom, that we look to God for all good, and trust Him even in the difficult times. Instead of the foolishness of saying "No God," we confess, "I believe in God the Father Almighty..." *O Lord, give us the wisdom of knowing Your name, Your Word, and Your promises. Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:6-16a: Love without Hypocrisy

Paul, in these verses, piles on encouragement after encouragement. Love, serve, give, prophecy, encourage, rejoice, weep, be patient, steadfast in prayer, and kindly affectionate to one another. Love shapes our Christian life. Knowing the abundant and saving love of God for us in Christ, we are free to love and serve one another, to lie in harmony with each other, and to live and die for our neighbor. It is true, we don't always love as we should, but the forgiveness of sins picks us up, dusts us off, and sends us back towards our neighbor with life and kindness to give. *Lord Jesus Christ, You have perfectly loved us. Give us Your Holy Spirit so that we might begin to love one another. Amen.*

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WED

### SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 18:15-19, A Prophet Like Moses

Next to Genesis 3:15, this passage is the most important prophecy of Christ in the books of Moses. Moses is more than a prophet, he is the deliverer; he is the man who stood before Pharaoh and called for him to let the people go. He is the one who stood at the Red Sea so the people could go through. Moses is the one who stood in the presence of God on the mountain for 40 days, and carried down to the people the Ten Commandments and the instructions for the liturgy and the worship of God. We rejoice that Jesus is our deliverer, He has brought us from darkness into the kingdom of light, He has baptized us, He gives us His Word, and His body and blood, and will, at last, bring us to eternal life. *Lord Jesus, thank You for being my deliverer. Amen.*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:1-10, Zacchaeus the Lost has been Found

"The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost." Zacchaeus was lost, totally given over to greed and corruption, but the Holy Spirit called him by the Gospel and enlightened him with His gifts, and Zacchaeus repents of his sins. The Pharisees are astonished that Jesus has anything to do with this sinful man, but Jesus came to save sinners. The Pharisees can't see their own sin; they don't even know that they need a Savior. But Zacchaeus, and the tax collectors, and you and I know our sin, we know we are lost, and so we rejoice that Jesus "came to seek and save the lost." *O Lord, thank You for seeking and saving my brother Zacchaeus, and that You for seeking and saving me. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:21-33, Husbands and Wives, Christ and the Church

This text is wonderful instruction for husbands and wives, and it is wonderful comfort for all Christians. We, the church, are Christ's bride. He has given Himself for us, even given His life for us on the cross, so that we could live forever with Him. He has washed us and made us perfect (without blemish) and ready for the great wedding feast by baptism (the water and the word, see verse 26). So we gladly submit to Him, believing His promises and obeying His commands. This is the Church's joy and delight, that we are made one with Christ, and will be eternally. *Heavenly Bridegroom, with Your Gospel and the forgiveness of our sins, make us ready for the heavenly marriage feast. Amen.*

SAT

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 16: The Path of Life

Take a look at verse 11 of this magnificent Psalm, "You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." This is a promise of the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. We have this great hope that the trouble and sorrows of this world will soon come to an end, we will reach the end of this valley of tears, and we will walk forever on the path of life; we will be with Jesus, beholding His face, and He will be our treasure and our joy that never ends. With this hope we press on, trusting, praying, working, knowing that the death of Jesus has made a way for us to come to eternal life. *Dear Jesus, bring us at last to the eternal joy and pleasure of Your presence. Amen.*

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