

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 **Colossians 1:17**

“For by [Christ] all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him.”

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
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.</p> | <p>4. This is He whom Heaven-taught singers
Sang of old with one accord;
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the Long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.</p> |
| <p>3. O ye heights of heaven, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.</p> | <p>5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore.</p> |



“God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create”

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: God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create

Following the narratives of Jesus' boyhood (Epiphany and Epiphany I), Epiphany II focuses on Jesus' first miracle (John 2) and His creative power. Here is fulfilled the historic Introit for Epiphany Day, "Behold, the Lord, the Ruler, hath come," fulfilling the prophecy of *the* prophet in Deuteronomy 18, the promises to the faithful in Psalms 14 and 16, and the promise of His presence to Zacchaeus (Luke 19). Christ is also manifest among us in holy living (Romans 12) and in union with His church (Ephesians 5). The Introit continues, "And the kingdom and the power and the glory are in His hand" – and so are you, who know Him now by faith.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 2:1-11 "And at Cana, wedding-guest, In Thy Godhead manifest" (TLH 134.2)

The Evangelist describes this event as "the first of [Jesus'] signs," i.e., the first in the sequence of miracles that serve as signposts to highlight the greater reality of His person and work and that eventually culminate in the greatest miracle of all—salvation in the hidden glory of the cross. The miracle of changing water into wine proclaims the good news that Christ is the only-begotten of the Father, the One by whom all things were created and in whom all things subsist. Apart from Him, we have but darkness and death. But in Christ alone, creation is restored, and joy is given to all who believe in Him. *Lord Jesus, as You once manifested Your glory by turning water into wine, continue to give us the finest of wines in the Blessed Sacrament. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 14 Manifest in the Generation of the Righteous

Early English translators of the Bible invented the word "atheist" to translate the saying in verse 1 of this Psalm, "There is no God." Before the age of Charles Darwin and the Enlightenment, an atheist was more of an idea than a reality. It was common knowledge that "wise man" (*homo sapien*) was also by nature "religious man" (*homo religioso*), for even the most ridiculous of mythologies are full of demigods. But only Christianity has Jesus Christ, the fullness of God in human form (Colossians 2:9), who has come out of Zion to restore the fortunes of His people and let Israel be glad. O Lord, apart from You we only turn aside to the idols of our choosing. *Grant us to take refuge in You and in Your Son, in Whom alone is life and salvation. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:6-16a Manifest in Our Life Together in Christ

The imperatives in this reading from Romans are impossible for the sinful flesh to fulfill, perhaps especially the command, "Bless those who persecute you" (v. 14). See, O Sinner, how you have failed God and your neighbor and repent! But see how Christ and Christ alone has fulfilled every description of the Christian life: using His gifts for His neighbor's benefit, letting love be genuine, and blessing those who nailed Him to the cross. Having reconciled all things to Himself and made peace by His blood on the cross (Colossians 1:20), He continues to fulfill what He promised for our life together, "How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1). *Father, grant that we may be one, even as You and the Son are one. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 18:15-19 Manifest as the Prophet Greater than Moses

Moses and John the Baptist are the "bookends" of the prophets, with Moses being the first prophet and John being the last and greatest prophet. But the promise in Deuteronomy of a new and greater prophet was not fulfilled in Moses, in the prophets of old, or even in John the Baptist (John 1:21). Rather, *the* singular, preeminent, and supreme Prophet is Jesus Himself. So Moses and John preach repentance to make straight the way of the Lord in our hearts for these prophetic words, "I forgive you all yours sins." *O Lord, all that was promised in the prophets' sacred page and the poets' winged word has been fulfilled in Your Son. Grant that His gospel may be re-echoed among us now, 'Good will to all men!' Amen.* (Prayer adapted from TLH 132.2)

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:1-10 Manifest in Salvation for the Lost

No man can see God the Father, so Zacchaeus rightly desired to see the Son, who is the living icon of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15). See how he was small in stature, but even more so he was made low in spirit, calling upon the Lord as one who was poor and needy. Similarly, Zacchaeus was rich in the things of this world, but he renounced all earthly wealth in favor of being rich toward God, even as God took up residence in His house and brought with Him life and salvation. So let it be said of all who believe and are baptized, "Today salvation has come to this soul, for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." *In Thy favor, O my Savior! Thou wilt cheer me; Thy Word calls me to draw near Thee* (TLH 343.4). Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:21-33 Manifest in the Mystery of Christ and His Church

Behold the truth behind marriage: Christ and the church. The husband is the head of the wife, as Christ is the Head of the church. Wives are subject to their husbands, as the church is subject to Christ. The husband is willing to die for his bride, even as Christ loved His bride enough to suffer death in her stead and then to cleanse her through Holy Baptism. And as the husband rejoices over His bride in the oneness of their fleshly union, so may the bride of Christ ever rejoice in being a member of His own body, especially as she receives the Holy Sacrament. *Soul of Christ, hallow me; body of Christ, save me; blood of Christ, refresh me; water from the side of Christ, wash me; Passion of Christ, strengthen me; O good Jesus, hear me! Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 16 Manifest at the Right Hand of the Father

In this Psalm, David prays, Christ prays, the church prays. David prays that the Lord, Who is at his right hand, will never abandon him, a promise fulfilled in God's providence for David in life and in death. Christ prays that the Father would not abandon His soul to death and make known to Him the path of life, a promise fulfilled in Jesus' three-day rest in the tomb and in His glorious resurrection. And the church prays that Jesus, Who always intercedes for us at God's right hand, would never abandon His people, but bring them to "the fruition of [His] glorious Godhead" (Collect for Epiphany Day). *All glory, Jesus, be to Thee / For this Thy glad epiphany; Whom with the Father we adore / And Holy Ghost forevermore* (TLH 131.5). Amen.

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