

“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 **Mark 8:2**

I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat.

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.

Around the Word Devotions + the week of July 15-21, 2018

THEME OF THE WEEK: Submission to the Lord of Compassion

God has compassion on His people so He works good for them. This is not based on what we can earn. It has nothing to do with what we deserve. God loves sinners and insists on saving us. He purchased and won us with His death. He is present among us in Word and Sacrament to forgive, strengthen, and save. He insists that we be His even as He bends all of creation to serve a singular purpose. All of it stems from the same compassion that drove Him in days of old. We don't measure it by our works. We don't measure it by our stuff. We measure the compassion of God by the cross of Christ, where love was manifest and displayed.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Mark 8:1-9 The Law Measures. The Gospel Gives.

The Law is a picture of good. It leaves us with the word 'enough' constantly on our tongue. Do enough. Be enough. Have enough. Shortcomings are easy to spot. There's not enough food in the wilderness, and there are 4,000 people. It's so easy to measure the details, that we miss the point. God simply has compassion. We want to measure. Christ simply has compassion, and it's enough. Everyone is fed. The Gospel gives. Where you don't measure up, Christ has mercy on you. *Lord Jesus Christ, our sins and wants are ever before our eyes. Have compassion on us and care for all of our needs of body and soul. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:49-56 The Law is Not Just Good. It's Good for You

The Psalmist finds comfort in the Law, which seems backwards to Lutherans. The Law shows us our sin. It's not comforting. Yet the Law still carries a promise. Things go better when you walk in it. Life is better when you're not afraid of being murdered. People are helped when you do good. We can't fulfill the Law perfectly, but Christ did for us. We are forgiven. Now, the Law is not just good, but good for us. God promises to work through us to bless the work of our hands. He even shows us how He'll do it.

O Lord, teach us to love every Word You reveal to us, that we may find comfort in Your promise to work blessings as You have taught us to hope. Amen.

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:19-23 Slaves to God

"Slave" is a loaded word. It means people are property. We're all slaves to something. Anyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. It takes over our lives and it ends in inescapable death. It owns us. Nobody is free. Idolatry wishes to be free, but that kind of freedom is reserved for God alone. Yet God loves you. He bought you with the life of His Son, not to make you independent of Him, but to be closer to Him. You are owned by God. He takes care of what's His, and keeps you with Him for all eternity. *Lord Jesus Christ, You purchased and won us with Your holy and precious blood, and innocent suffering and death. Grant that we may live with You in Your kingdom and serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness to all eternity. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:23-25 Hashtag: Blessed Now and Not Yet

The Lord bless you and keep you. Sometimes it feels like just words. Nothing seems to change. We are blessed now, even if we don't yet see it. The blessing is what gets you to the resurrection, where "now" and "not yet" come together and every promise is seen with perfect eyes. God blesses with abundance, but also suffering. We are blessed, because God works all things to get us to the Last Day. We don't measure it by our feelings. Our certainty comes from Christ's death and resurrection. Through baptism, we are united with Christ to be heirs of the kingdom. *Bless us, dear Father, for the sake of Your Son, that we might rejoice with all of Israel on the last day when every weary soul is satisfied and replenished. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 10:24-31 You're Worth What was Paid for You

The thought of God knowing every dark sin I keep hidden from my neighbor doesn't seem to go hand in hand with being "of more value than a sparrow." The Lord whispers "why" to us in the depth of our own darkness and calls us to shout the answer from the housetops. You are not worth what you've done, you are worth what was paid for you. Your value is not based on your works, but Christ's holy and precious blood, and His innocent suffering and death. That is the price He paid. You are priceless. *Heavenly Father, You paid the price of Your Son to purchase and redeem us. Comfort us with the knowledge of Your loving sacrifice and grant us Your peace. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Acts 14:8-23 Anything But a Preacher

The crowds willingly heard Paul and the disciples when they thought they were gods. When they learned they were preachers of the Gospel they stoned them! False gods can be coerced with a sacrifice. Preachers speak what they were sent to say. They'll call you sinners. They'll preach Christ crucified, absolve your sins, and your enemies' sins too. The Gospel is a double edged sword. It torments unbelief and it creates faith. It kills and makes alive. Your pastor speaks words not his own, and they carry power not his own. He speaks Jesus' words. *Lord God, Heavenly Father, open our ears to hear Your word from my pastor, and grant that he speak it in truth and faithfulness. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 125 The Lord is Like a Mountain

The Lord is like a mountain range surrounding His people. We are cut off from danger. He protects us. We find shelter in Him. There are those who have left His protection, but consider where He built it. He did not wait in heaven for the righteous to climb up. He descended to protect, to save. He surrounds His people in the valley of the shadow of death, that we would fear no evil. He is with us. In Him, we abide even as He abides. We rise as He is risen. *Hem us in, O LORD, that we may find shelter even as mountains surround Jerusalem. Amen.*

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