

## 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 Isaiah 49:13

“Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted His people and will have compassion on His afflicted.”

## 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.



## “Submission to the Lord of Compassion”

**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 26-August 1, 2020

## THEME OF THE WEEK: Submission to the Lord's Compassion

Jesus has compassion on the crowd. He knows what every man, woman, and child risked when they left the safety of their homes to be blessed by Him through His Word. They didn't know where they were going to get bread in such a desolate place, but they also realized there are greater treasures than earthly loaves. Jesus gives Himself, the living bread from heaven. He gives words of eternal life. Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33). Just so, He feeds these poor souls with living bread and added to it the daily bread that helps and supports the needs of their bodies.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Mark 8:1-9 "The Lord Gives"

The false gods demand sacrifice. If the god is drunkenness, then you sacrifice sobriety with the bottle. If the god is wealth, then you offer up hours and earnings. If the god is the revolutionary justice, then you enact the liturgy of virtue signaling. But the false gods are never sated. No volume or quality of sacrifices is enough to earn lasting favor. Contrast this with Jesus in the wilderness with the crowd. He is no idol, but the true and living God in the flesh. He demands no sacrifices. From compassion He gives, teaches, blesses, and feeds both body and soul. The idols can't get enough of works. Christ gives abundantly from grace because He alone is the sufficient sacrifice for all men's sins. *Thanks be to You, O Lord, for Your compassion. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:49-56 "Comfort from Remembering the Law"

What can a Christian do when society has turned lawless? It's bad now. "Laws" have been made to protect lawlessness. Instead of protecting God's gift of life, as the fifth commandment teaches us, our government has laws that make provision for the murder of the unborn and aged. Instead of protecting the gifts God has given to private citizens, as the seventh commandment teaches, riots and looting go unpunished by our leaders. But when the Christian thinks of the Lord's rules from of old, he takes comfort. Why? The lawlessness of the world cannot last and prevail over the saints. The Lord will remember His promises and deliver us. The Lord will uphold His Law. *Grant Your statutes to be our songs in the house of our sojourning, O Lord. Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:19-23 "The Way of Lawlessness and the Way of Righteousness"

Lawlessness was the old way of our flesh. Instead of loving God and our neighbor, our flesh lived in rebellion, worshiping its desires. Lawlessness leads to more lawlessness, St. Paul writes. Sin begets sin. Flesh doesn't have the power to do anything else. At the center of that web isn't fulfillment or pleasure, but death. "But now you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God." The web has unraveled. The captivity is ended. God's Son, born in the substance of our mortal natures, suffered and has been raised to set us free from the flesh's doom. Now we live in His righteousness and bear fruits of righteousness. "The fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life." *Praise God for the eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

WED

### SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:23-25 "Once More They Shall Use These Words"

A troubled land is filled with troubled words. Outrage finds an outlet in the mob's chants. The scoffers lash out with derision and insult. The godly are shaken and cry out in lamentation to the Lord. The devil and his demons tempt the faithful with despair. They want to fill their minds with the thought that God's people will never speak words of blessing and fill their hearts with joy again. Against the devil's litany of doom, the Lord restores His people's fortunes through Jesus. "For I will satisfy the weary soul, and every languishing soul I will replenish," says the Lord. Jesus fills us with the knowledge of the Father's love. By the Spirit, He grants us faith that grasps His righteousness. *The Lord bless you, O habitation of righteousness, O holy hill! Amen.*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 10:24-31 "Nothing Is Covered that Will Not Be Revealed"

Society expects our churches to practice a "quiet Christianity." They don't care what we believe, as long as we don't shout it from the rooftops, as long as we don't threaten the things they fear, love, and trust. Or else we'll find our invitations to participate in their society canceled, I suppose. Dear saints, the Gospel is never quiet. Though it's good that you read the Bible in private, the Scriptures are meant to be preached publicly. They're meant to instruct friends, neighbors, and princes in heavenly righteousness revealed in Christ. Thanks be to God for the public ministry of the Word. Support your pastor. Pray for him. Encourage him not to be afraid. *Grant our pastors boldness to preach the saving truth, even as they are maligned by the world. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: Acts 14:8-23 "Turn from these Vain Things to a Living God"

We like to associate signs of power with divinity. In ancient times, the Greeks saw the lightning fall from the sky and personified its power calling it, Zeus. They associated a whole host of earthly powers with heavenly beings which they imagined lived above the heights on Mount Olympus. Even today, we see what money can buy and think that it's deserving our fear, love, and trust. "Miracle ministries" vie for our attention and make us doubt the "power" of our humdrum Lutheran church. But the living God has revealed Himself not in signs of power, but in Christ's suffering. He is revealed by the preaching of the cross by which the saints are saved. Without this Word there is neither life nor blessing. *Grant me faith to be saved by Your Word. Amen.*

SAT

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 125 "Mount Zion's Abiding Protection"

Natural disasters, like earthquakes, pandemics, fire, and flood, take people's lives and property. Worse, false doctrines and false teachers try to rip the church apart by robbing the saints of their comfort. They try to rob the saints of Christ and His Word. Keeping our eyes on the world fills our hearts with trouble. But "Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion which cannot be moved, but abides forever." The scepter of wickedness shatters when it strikes the Lord's Word and His church. Though, goaded by the demons, our enemies plot and rage, they cannot tear our hope from us. Christ has died for us. He has ascended. In glory He will come again and vindicate our faith. *Grant me Israel's peace, O Lord, in remembrance of Your Word. Amen.*

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