

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 18:18-19, 1-2, 27, 30, 49**

The Lord was / my support.*
In the day of my ca- / lamity
He brought me out into a / broad place;*
He delivered me because He delight- / ed in me.
I will love You, O / Lord, my strength.*
The Lord is my rock and my / fortress.
For You will save the humble / people,*
but will bring down / haughty looks.
As for God, His way is / perfect;*
the word of the Lord is / proven;
I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the / Gentiles,*
and sing praises / to Your name.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 28:7**

The Lord is my strength and my Shield, my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped.

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, who never fails to help and govern those whom You bring up in Your steadfast fear and love, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion

TLH 384, LSB 559
Johann Olearius



1. Oh, how great is Thy compassion,
Faithful Father, God of grace,
That with all our fallen race
And in our deep degradation
Thou wast merciful that we
Might be saved eternally!
2. Thy great love for this hath striven
That we may from sin be free
And forever live with Thee;
Yea, Thy Son Himself hath given
And extends an earnest call
To His Supper unto all.
3. And for this our soul's salvation
Voucheth Thy good Spirit, Lord,
In Thy Sacraments and Word.
He imparts true consolation,
Granteth us the gift of faith
That we fear nor hell nor death.
4. Lord, Thy mercy will not leave me,-
Truth doth evermore abide,-
Then in Thee I will confide.
Since Thy Word cannot deceive me,
My salvation is to me
Well assured eternally.



“The Spirit’s Call to Fellowship with God”

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 June 10-16, 2018

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Spirit's Call to Fellowship with God

Life and death, love and peace, this week has it all. The Lord warns us and comforts us, He commands us and blesses us. The Lord gives us all we need for this life and for the life to come, and all of it comes from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We are found by God, called into the feast of His love, given His Kingdom and Spirit, and blessed in every way. My the Lord Jesus give us His Spirit so that we would rejoice this week and always in His kindness.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:16-24, The Feast Turned to a Disaster

The kingdom of heaven is like a king's wedding feast! Imagine it, being invited by the king to his castle for a party. But in the parable the invited fools do not come. They make excuses. "I have work to do, more important things to attend to; I won't come to the feast." This makes the king angry, and he sends his servants into the streets to find guests to share his bounty and his joy. This, dear friends, is the church, the feast of the great King, the abundance of His Son's mercy, the overflow of the Spirit's kindness, the feast of the joy of salvation. We are invited. We are called in. We are rejoicing in the marriage feast of the Son. *O Lord, give us the joy and peace of Your kingdom. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:9-16, Delight, Rejoicing, Meditation in the Lord's Word

Look at the verbs in this section, especially verses 14-16. "I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, as much as in all riches. I will meditate in Your precepts... I will delight myself in Your statutes." God's Word is good, it is our delight, our treasure, our joy; it makes us smile. The Scriptures are full of the Lord's wisdom and kindness; they drip with His mercy and love. On every page of the Bible we hear an account of the Lord's bleeding love. We are never commanded to read the Scriptures. The command is better: delight in the Scriptures, rejoice in God's Word, treasure His statutes. *O Lord, we give You thanks for Your life-giving Word. Grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we would rejoice in it. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 3:13-18, Love is Passing from Death to Life

"We know that we have passed from death to life because we love the brethren." Love is life. Because of His great love for us, the Father sent His only begotten Son to die for us. Because of His great love for us, the Son gave His life as the propitiation for our sins. Because of His great love for us, the Holy Spirit comes to us with the promise of kindness and the strength of salvation. The love of God is our life. And this love of God for us spills over into our life of love for our neighbor. We love because He first loved us. We love because His love made us alive. *O Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, make us alive with Your love. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 25:6-9, The Promise of Death's Destruction

The Lord will swallow up death! That is quite a promise, and on Easter Jesus kept that promise. He destroyed in that place the covering that is cast over all people: the fear of the grave. On that day he destroyed the veil that is spread over all nations: dread of death. Jesus, in His resurrection, swallowed up death in victory. He made a way out of the grave to life, for Himself, and for us. Where is the sting of death? Where is the fear of the grave? Our sins are forgiven. God is our friend. Eternal life is ours, not eternal death. The Lord promised us this victory in Isaiah 25, and He delivered us this victory in our baptism. *Thank You, Lord Jesus, for delivering us from the fear of death through Your resurrection. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:25-35, The First Mention of the Cross

In this text we have the first mention of the "cross" in the Gospels. And look, it's not the cross of Jesus. It's your cross. "Whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple." Jesus calls us to a life that will include suffering, a life of heartache and sorrow. We walk through a veil of tears. But the cross does not only mean sorrow, it also means forgiveness, life, and salvation. It also delivers from death and hell. The cross means that God is not our enemy, but our friend. So our crosses are a light load. Jesus carries the heavy stuff, the sin and death and sorrow, and we walk with him, bearing the yoke made light by His mercy. *Lord Jesus, thank You for carrying my burdens of sin and death, and placing on me the joy of Your salvation. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 3:14-22, Riches of God's Kingdom

This is the last of the seven letters of Jesus to these churches in Asia, this one to the congregation in Laodicea. In each of these letters Jesus preaches Law and Gospel; He issues warnings and gives promises. To the Laodicea He warns them about pride, thinking they have all they need, and He tells them that their pride has made them lukewarm, tepid, and He is ready to spit them out of His mouth. They think they are rich and have all things. They are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked, but Jesus has for them white robes, the treasures of His grace, the enlightenment of His spirit, and all the gifts of His kingdom. *Lord Jesus, grant us Your Kingdom and Your righteous so that we would rejoice in You, our first love. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 28, The Lord is My Strength and My Shield

We always want to be our own shield, our own strength. We rely on ourselves, depend on ourselves, trusting ourselves. But this ends in disaster, our own destruction. We cannot save ourselves, but here on the psalm, and on every page of the Bible, the Lord comes to us and says, "I am your Strength. I am your Shield. I am your Savior. I am your Defender. I am your Rescue, your Life, your Salvation. Don't worry. I've got you." Faith hides us in Christ. By faith, we are safe in His promises. "My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped." (Psalm 28:7) *Oh Lord, You are blessed. You have heard the voice of my supplications. You are my Strength and my Shield, my saving Refuge. Amen.*

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