

## 5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Wisdom 1:7; Psalm 68:1, 3, 4, 11, 33, 35

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world. Alle- | luia.\*

Let the righ- | teous be glad;  
let them rejoice be- | fore God;\*  
yes, let them rejoice exceedingly. Alle- | luia.  
Let God arise, let His enemies be | scattered;\*  
let those also who hate Him flee be- | fore Him.  
Sing to God, sing praises | to His name;\*  
extol Him who rides | on the clouds.  
The Lord | gave the Word;\*  
great was the company of those who pro- | claimed it.  
He sends out His voice, a | mighty voice.\*

The God of Israel gives strength and power to His | people.  
nor His mercy | from me!

## 6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Acts 2: 1,4a

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...

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

## 8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God our merciful Father, who taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending to them the light of Your Holy Spirit, bring us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy comfort: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## 9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

## 10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!

TLH 224, LSB 497

Martin Luther



1. Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!  
Be all Thy graces now out poured  
On each believer's mind and heart:  
Thy fervent love to them impart.  
Lord, by the brightness of Thy light,  
Thou in the faith dost men unite  
Of every land and every tongue;  
This to Thy praise, O Lord, our God, be sung.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

2. Thou holy Light, Guide Divine  
Oh, cause the Word of Life to shine!  
Teach us to know our God aright  
And call Him Father with delight.

From every error keep us free;  
Let none but Christ our Master be  
That we in living faith abide,  
In Him, our Lord, with all our might confide.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

3. Thou holy Fire, Comfort true,  
Grant us the will Thy work to do  
And in Thy service to abide;  
Let trials turn us not aside.  
Lord, by Thy power prepare each heart  
And to our weakness strength impart  
That bravely here we may contend,  
Through life and death to Thee, our Lord, ascend.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!



Around the Word Devotions + June 4-10, 2017  
Brought to you by Worldview Everlasting

“The Holy Spirit: Creator of the Church”

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.



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**THEME OF THE WEEK: The Holy Spirit: Creator of the Church**

Jesus is ascended, but He is not gone. He has not left His Church here in this world to muddle through the trials and tribulations of sin, death, and the power of the devil all alone. All victory was won on the cross and now all victory is given to you in His Church. Jesus sent to us His Holy Spirit so that we might receive Christ here in time and here in space; so that He might be with us always to the very end of the age. It is an odd way in going about it, but this is the way of our Lord. We seek God where He has promised to be; not where we would want Him to be. And that is in His Church: In the preaching of the Gospel, the forging of sins, the splashing of water, and the partaking of the Feast. May the Holy Spirit never cease in this work for us!

SUN

**SCRIPTURE: The Day of Pentecost: Acts 2:1-21—The Spirit and His Church**

This is the beginning of the Church: The apostles filled with the Holy Spirit and preaching the Gospel. This is the gift of Christ for you, for me, and for all the world; that we might know Christ, that we might receive Christ, that we might be one with Christ. None of this happens in a mystical sort of way. None of this happens through feelings or a burning in the bosom. It is all concrete and real. The Church preaches the Gospel, that is, she preaches Christ. And we receive Him. Not just words about Him, but the Word made flesh preached into our ears, sprinkled on our foreheads, placed upon our tongues, and poured down our throats. All of it real. All of it certain. All of it for our good. *Holy Spirit, call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify your Church through the preaching of the Gospel and with Your gracious gifts that we might be kept in Christ in the one true faith. Amen.*

MON

**SCRIPTURE: Pentecost Monday: Acts 10:34a, 42-48—Baptism for All**

The Jews are astonished in our text for today. Gone are the requirements of the Law. Gone are the legalistic ways in which our sinful flesh believes that we are made right before God. All that stands now is the Gospel of Christ crucified and the forgiveness of sins. And this gift is for everyone. Circumcision stands for nothing. It is replaced by something greater: Baptism. And this baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ makes us all one in Christ: Jew, Gentile, man, woman, slave, or free; all of us receive the same gift of the cross. And no one has earned it. No one is greater than the next. All of us are but beggars holding out empty sacks that are filled daily with the gifts of our baptism: life and salvation and the forgiveness of sins for all. *Father in heaven, grant us daily the gifts of our baptism that we might be one in Christ and one with each other. Amen.*

TUE

**SCRIPTURE: Pentecost Tuesday: Acts 8:14-17 (9-25)—The Difference Between Good and Evil**

The gifts of the Church are not for our earthly gain. God certainly provides for all of our needs of the body, but the things of the Church are concerned with the things of the Gospel not with prosperity. Simon the Magician sought after gold and prestige. He was a sinner no different than you or me. For that, he was charged to repent; and so are we. The gifts of the Church are given for our salvation. What greater prize could there ever be? We should not seek fame and fortune from the cross, for the cross promises none of this. Instead, it promises life and salvation, the forgiveness of sins, and oneness with God. These gifts are yours free and clear each day through the Holy Spirit in His Church. And for that, we are truly blessed beyond all measure. *Lord Jesus Christ, grant that we may desire and receive nothing more than the gifts of the cross given to us in your Church. Amen.*

WED

**SCRIPTURE: Joel 2:28-32—Where Have We Heard This Before?**

Peter quotes these very words during his sermon on Pentecost. The Holy Spirit will be poured out and the Christian Church will be established here on earth. Signs will come and signs will go as we wait for the return of our Lord. But the promise for you, the promise for the Church, is that all who call on the name of the Lord will be saved from the judgment that leads to eternal death. You too will be judged, but you will be judged on the merits of Christ alone for the sake of Christ alone. And how do you know this? Because you have been baptized into Christ. You have received absolution as if from the lips of Christ Himself, you have been made one with your Lord each time you partake of holy communion. This gift is for the Church. This gift is for you. Thanks be to God!  
*Gracious God, may we be certain of our salvation as we call on the name of the Lord. Amen.*

THU

**SCRIPTURE: John 14:15-21—Loving God By Keeping His Commandments**

John tells us in His first epistle that the Commandment of Jesus is to believe in Him. And when we believe in Christ, when we receive the Holy Spirit and the gifts of forgiveness and faith, we can do nothing less than to love our neighbor. God does not need our good works, but our neighbor does. And as members of the Church, which the Holy Spirit has granted to you, you produce the fruits of faith. There is no other option, for connected to the Vine you must produce fruit. It is His work in you, just like everything else within the Church. His gift of life, salvation, forgiveness, and faith all given to you. His gifts of good works produced through you all for the good of your neighbor. His work. His Church. His everything for you. *Lord Jesus Christ, may we love you by keeping your commandments in faith, receiving your gifts and doing good toward our neighbors. Amen.*

FRI

**SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:7-16—Unity in Christ**

One of the gifts of the Church is unity. And this unity is a true unity, a true oneness. It is not just an empty word, but it necessarily means something. Jesus grants unity to us in His Church. With Him as our head, we make up His body. One body; eyes and ears and feet and belly buttons. All of us the same body in truth and purity. Schisms and factions seek to divide the Church, but Christ sent His Holy Spirit to unite it together as one in a common confession of faith. And this very day Jesus still prays for this unity to His Father in heaven. He speaks human words from human lips that you and I and the whole Church might be one just as He and the Father are one. And the glorious thing is, we are. We must be; for Christ makes it so. *Lord Jesus, pray for your Church that we might be one in you and one with each other just as you are one with the Father. Amen.*

SAT

**SCRIPTURE: Genesis 11:1-9—Our Way Or God's Way**

Our sinful flesh attempts to ascend to the heavens on our own accord. We seek unity with God and man through the works of our own hand. We may even believe that much of what we do is virtuous, but devoid of Christ and His Church, apart from the ways in which God grants unity and righteousness, all our good works are but filthy rags. But our Lord has established His Church to grant to us the very things that we seek to obtain on our own. Within the Church it is not our work that makes us one with God and one with each other but His; it is not our climbing to heaven, but Jesus coming down to us; it is not our filthy attempts at securing forgiveness, but God's divinely appointed institutions to distribute it freely. This is the gift of Pentecost: Christ Jesus and His Church for you. *Holy Spirit, grant us the gifts of the Church even as we attempt to fight against her. Amen.*