

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Liturgical Text, Psalm 8:1-5

Blessed the Holy / Trinity*
and the Undivided / Unity:
Let us give glo- / ry to Him*
For He has shown mercy / unto us.
O / Lord, our Lord,*
How excellent is Your name in / all the earth,
You have set Your glory above the / heavens!*

Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants, You have or- / dained strength.
What is man that You are mind- / ful of him,*
and the son of man that You / visit him?
For You have made him a little lower than the / angels,*

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Matthew 2:22

But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee.

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
All Depends on Our Possessing

TLH 425, LSB 732
Unknown



- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
|---|--|



“The One True God: the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost”

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: "The One True God: the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost"

We don't worship a generic "higher power." We don't believe in a god who is "out there," somewhere in the great void of existence. No, we believe in Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and we confess His name because He has revealed Himself to us. We worship one God in three persons, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance. This isn't the God we worship because we have come up with the clever vocabulary of the Trinity. Rather, this God has revealed Himself to us in the person of His Son and the Holy Spirit bears witness to us through Word and Sacrament. This is the true God.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 3:1-15 The Spirit Blows Where It Wishes

There's a bit of a control freak in each one of us. We want to control what happens in our life; how things work out, or what people say. In the same way we want to control how it is that the Holy Spirit works. We want this or that person to believe in Jesus. We want it to happen when we are the one talking about Jesus. But in the end, the Spirit works through the Word and Sacraments. We can't control how the Spirit works; we can only confess that these places are where the Spirit works. So instead of trying to control God, let us find comfort that the Spirit is at work in Word and Sacrament for our benefit. *Holy Spirit, strengthen my faith that I may trust in Your good and holy will. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 67 Let the Peoples Praise You, O God!

In thinking about the Holy Trinity it might be a temptation to turn the whole thing into some type of mathematical or chemical formula that exactly describes who God is in all of His intricacies. This Psalm is a helpful corrective to that. Yes, we want to speak the truth, but what does any meditation about the nature of God inspire? Praise! "Let the peoples praise you, O God." We should rightly worship and praise our Triune God who has used His saving power to bring us salvation and still blesses us. It is good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks, praise to our God. *Most holy God, let Your praises be upon my lips. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 11:33-36 God's Counselor?

I often have a really good idea what it is that God should do next! If only He would listen to me then things would go much better for me, my family, and others. I want to be God's counselor. But the rhetorical question in verse 34 says that no one is God's counselor. God's ways are the best ways and they may include suffering, pain, heartache, and sorrow. But nonetheless, as children of the heavenly Father, we trust that God's will is best for us. He doesn't necessarily have in mind your temporal happiness but rather your eternal life in the new creation. *Lord of all, give me the faith that trusts wholly in You. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 18:30-32 No Pleasure in Death

What a blessing it is that God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. God takes such little pleasure in this that He is willing to send His own Son into death so that the wicked would live through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Connected by faith to the passion and resurrection of Jesus, death no longer has dominion over you. Instead your sin is buried with Christ and you are a new creation. The Spirit has given you faith, given you repentance, and given you life in Jesus Christ. *Dear Jesus, thank You for Your death and resurrection on my account. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 28:18-20 Named Disciples

You are a disciple of the Lord. You have been named by God in the waters of Holy Baptism. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit has been given to you. God's name is upon you and you have been made a disciple. As a disciple you hear the Word of Christ that says disciples are made through baptism and teaching. Thus, the desire of a disciple is to be taught. Sit at the feet of your Triune God and He will fill your head with knowledge and your heart with faith. *Blessed Trinity, let Your name always be upon me as I walk as Your disciple. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 13:14 The Trinity Comes to You

Jesus Christ brings grace to you by His death and resurrection. The Father, out of love for you and the whole world, sent his Son Jesus Christ to be the propitiation for your sins. The Holy Spirit brings you into fellowship with God and with your brothers and sisters in the Christian faith. The Triune God comes to you, seeks you out, and gives good things to you. This apostolic blessing at the end of 2nd Corinthians should ever be in your ears to remind you of what great grace, love, and fellowship God has for you and with you. *O Lord, bestow Your eternal blessings upon me. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 115 A Mute, Again, Idol

An idol will never speak, hear, feel, or walk. It is not living. We wrongly idolize and put our trust in the creation of God. We look to people and objects for help in our times of need. Our idols are nothing; they are the work of our hands and minds. Instead, we fear, love, and trust in God above all things. He is your Help and Shield in time of need. He hears your prayers and He will bless you and give you His name so that you may praise the Lord forevermore. *O living God, hear me and answer me when I cry aloud. Amen.*

To support the work of these devotions please visit www.whatdoesthismean.org/support

Around the Word Devotions are produced by Around the Word Journal and are brought to you by Worldview Everlasting (www.worldvieweverlasting.com). Visit www.whatdoesthismean.org to sign up for these free devotions. These devotions are free for individual and family use. Questions? Please email bryan@aroundthewordjournal.com. Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Thank you to sanctus.org and lutheran-hymnal.com for the Collects and Hymns. This week's author is Pastor Travis Kleinschmidt. He is pastor of St. Jakobi Lutheran Church in Shawano, WI (stjakobi.org). He is married to Noel and has four boys, Joseph, Nolan, Adam, and Luke.