



“The Holy Spirit: Creator of the Church”

**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.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 48:9

“As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God, which God will establish forever.”

**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!

**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 Holy Spirit: Creator of the Church**

The Lord's Word is powerful. By it we have everything. Creation exists because of the Word. We exist because of the Word. We have faith because of the Word. We have the church because of the Word. The church has the Lord's gifts of Absolution, Baptism, Holy Communion, because of the Word. Accompanying these words is always the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus, in ascending, gives us this gift in order that we would be comforted, be forgiven, be sustained, and especially that we would be given all the wonderful gifts which He has for us.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **John 14:23-31 – Treasured Words**

Our Lord Jesus gives us the most important gift which could be given to anyone, words. But not just any words, these words grant us eternal life. They bring us out of darkness and give us faith. These words sustain us when times are dark. They bring us joy each morning. They teach and instruct and guide our daily lives. These words give us peace. To make things even more wonderful, these words come to us not only from Jesus, but also from the Father and the Holy Spirit. The whole Trinity speaks to us through these words. On account of that, we treasure the words, we love the words, and we keep them as our most precious treasure. *Lord, help me ever to treasure Your Words to me. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: **Psalm 48 – Hearing and Seeing God's Glory**

"As we have heard, so have we seen..." This is the pattern for the church. We first must hear from God what is the great reality of things. We hear that this water is not just plain water. We hear that these words are not just those of a mere man. We hear that this isn't just bread and wine. Then we see, by faith, according to those words. We see a life-giving water. We see God's servant proclaiming God's forgiveness. We see Christ's very body and blood given and shed for us for the forgiveness of sins. So too for the last day, we hear now of the great and glorious things. When we are called to glory, we will see, like the saints of Revelation, that wonderful reality. *Lord, help me to see, by faith, what You promise to me in Your Word. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **1 Peter 4:7-11 e – Love from God to Each Other**

Love covers a multitude of sins. Such is the nature of love. Love does not hold grudges. Love does not envy another's gifts. Love does not look out for one's self. Love seeks to help the neighbor, to put the best construction on things, and especially to forgive. Our Lord has given His love to us and we are therefore to be good stewards of it, to use that love in the service of our neighbor. As St. John reminds us, love for our neighbor flows from God's own love, Who loved us first. So we look to God who loves us without grudges, or grumbling, or envy, or begrudgingly, but in joy. For the Lord rejoices to declare you forgiven on account of the Son's work. Therefore, the Lord's Joy becomes our joy as well. *Lord, may Your love be my joy. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Joel 2:28-32 – The Spirit is Poured on You**

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit descends upon the multitude. At Pentecost, we have the beginning of the fulfilment of the Prophet's words. The Spirit is poured out on all flesh. But it does not stop there. The Spirit continues to be poured out today, in a number of ways, but in no way more wonderful than in the waters of Baptism. There, the Lord saves us according to His own mercy by the washing of the Holy Spirit "whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior." In your Baptism, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon you for this express purpose: to save you. In that moment, the words of Joel are fulfilled in and for you. *Lord, grant me to always rejoice in the pouring out of the Spirit on me in my Baptism. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: **John 14:15-21 – Still Looking at Jesus**

There is always the temptation to think that because Jesus has ascended, because He is not standing right in front of us, He is gone from us. But nothing can be further from the truth. Because Jesus has sent to us the Spirit, we see Jesus in a way that the world cannot. "The world will see me no more, but you will see me." The world sees only the external, outward things. It can't see the beauty of the church, or the wonder of the Sacraments, or the truth of the Word. But the Christian can and does. Because the Christian has the Holy Spirit, given by Jesus, to enlighten our hearts, minds, and eyes, we continue to see Jesus, even today. *Lord, help me always to see You in Your gifts by the Spirit. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Ephesians 4:7-16 – The Lovely Truth**

Our Lord tells us to speak the truth to each other. He also reminds us that doing so is something which flows from love. We are to speak the truth to one another because we love one another. Jesus loves us enough to give us the truth, so we ought to love each other and therefore speak the truth. From that truth, and only from that truth, will we then grow up with one another into Christ, who is THE Truth, and thereby also the head. Sometimes that truth will hurt our sinful flesh, but that's good. Our flesh needs to be crucified daily to the truth of God's Law. But more importantly, our spirit is encouraged with the truth of the Gospel, so that more and more we become one body, with Christ the head. *Lord, help me speak Your truth. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalm 104 – God's Powerful Word**

The Lord's Word is powerful. When He speaks things not only happen, but they come into existence. Where there was once nothing, now there exists the whole of creation, all because God said so. Even more wonderfully, the Lord continues caring for it all. He waters His creation, gives it nourishment, and gives wine to gladden hearts. This is all done by His Word, which continues to create and sustain. Most wonderfully, however, is that the Lord uses that same Word to bring us into the faith and to declare our sins forgiven and to give us His Sacraments. The Lord will use that powerful Word to call us from our graves on the last day. We will dwell with Him for eternity. The Lord's Word is indeed powerful. *Lord, thank You for Your Word. Amen.*

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