

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Isaiah 35:10; Psalm 39:4-5, 7-8**

The ransomed of the Lord / shall return,\*  
and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy / on their heads.  
They shall obtain joy and / gladness,\*  
and sorrow and sighing shall / flee away.  
Lord, make me to know my end, and what is the measure / of my days,\*  
that I may know how / frail I am.  
You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is as nothing be- /  
fore You:\*

certainly every man at his best state is but / vapor.  
And now, Lord, what do I / wait for?\*

My hope / is in You.  
Deliver me from all my trans- / gressions;\*

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Matthew 25:13**

"Watch, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming."

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Absolve, we implore You, O Lord, Your people from their offenses, that from the bonds of our sins which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon us we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; 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  
**Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying**

TLH 609, LSB 516  
Philipp Nicolai



1. "Wake, awake, for night is flying,"  
The watchmen on the heights are cry-  
ing; "Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"  
Midnight hears the welcome voices  
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
"Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?  
The Bridegroom comes, awake!  
Your lamps with gladness take!  
Hallelujah!  
With bridal care Yourselves prepare  
To meet the Bridegroom, who is near."

3. Now let all the heav'ns adore Thee,  
Let men and angels sing before Thee,  
With harp and cymbal's clearest tone,  
Of one pearl each shining portal,  
Where, dwelling with the choir  
immortal,  
We gather round Thy radiant throne.  
No vision ever brought,  
No ear hath ever caught,  
Such great glory;  
Therefore will we Eternally  
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee.



**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 November 26-December 2, 2017

### THEME OF THE WEEK: The Second Coming of Christ

Jesus is coming. This is great news. The Last Day is the first day of the new heaven and earth. It is the day of redemption. It is the day when the victory of the cross is made visible to all of creation. It is the day that defines our hope and longing, the day for which we pray, “Come, Lord Jesus!” No one knows the day or the hour, when that day will come, but we know that Jesus cannot lie, and He has told us, “The Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not expect” (Matthew 24:44). We wait with hope and great expectation.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:1-13, Wisdom and Waiting

Ten are waiting. Ten have lamps. Ten are asleep. But five are wise. Five are foolish. What’s the difference? The five fools have no oil, no faith, no confidence in the promise of the Bridegroom that he would come. Jesus tells this parable to us so that we would be among the wise, that we would believe His promise and be among those who wait eagerly for His return. “The Bridegroom comes, awake! Your lamps with gladness take! Alleluia!” *Lord Jesus, send us Your Holy Spirit to give us faith by and in Your Word of promise. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 103: Bless the Lord, O My Soul

“As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.” How far is the east from the west? If you head east, and keep going, you will always be going east. You will never get to the west. Imagine it! This is how far our sins are from us, from you. When Jesus bore our sins and carried our sorrows He took them over the horizon, out of reach. Our sins might shout to heaven for our punishment, but they are too far away. They can’t be heard. *O Lord we give You thanks that You have removed our transgressions from us! Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Appointed for Salvation

Paul comforts the Christians in Thessalonica with an astounding promise, “God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:9). Jesus was appointed for wrath. He was destined for the cross. He was set towards Jerusalem, not you. For you God has an unending joy and blessing achieved by His Son and through His suffering. When we remember that the last day is drawing near, because that day, for the sons of light, will be a day of joy and gladness, the day that our salvation arrives. *Lord Jesus, come quickly, and bring to us the salvation You accomplished in Your death and resurrection. Amen.*

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WED

### SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 65:17-19, A New Heaven and Earth

A new heaven and a new earth, that is what is coming. This earth is groaning under the sin of Adam, and waiting for its redemption. Our old flesh is pressed down by the corruption of the fall, and every day we are being dragged closer to the grave. But a day is coming, “the Day” is coming, where the heavens and the earth will be made partakers of the resurrection of Jesus. They will be made new. We, the baptized, are the citizens of this new Jerusalem, and soon we will know its joys. *Lord Jesus, grant us the eternal joys of the new heavens and earth. Amen.*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:13-16, A City on a Hill

Jesus describes His church like a city set on a hill whose lights are seen for miles around on every side. Especially as the times grow darker, the light will shine even brighter. And what is the light of this city of God? The light is the Word of God, the clarity of God’s Law and the truth of God’s love for sinners. This is the light of our own hearts and conscience, and it is the light of the world. This is the light that shines in the eyes and hearts of the Lord’s Christians, the light heard in the preaching of the Gospel and felt as Christians bless their neighbors. *Heavenly Father, cause the light of Your Son to shine among us. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: Revelation 21:1-7, A Bride Adorned for Her Husband

When we consider the Last Day our mind is filled with the picture of Jesus, coming on the clouds with great glory. But look at the picture put before us in Revelation 21, not the image of Christ, but of Christ’s church, of you and me! We are the New Jerusalem prepared like a bride for her husband! You know that fantastic moment in a wedding when the groom first sees his bride? This is the picture of the Last Day, Jesus beholding you in the resplendent glory of His holiness. What a day! *Come, Lord Jesus, and receive Your church as a groom rejoices in His bride. Amen.*

SAT

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 27: The One Thing to Desire

“One thing I have desired of the LORD...” When King David starts a sentence like this you perk up and pay attention. What is the one thing that David is seeking and desiring? “That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.” David longs to be in church, to hear the Lord’s Word, to know the Lord’s kindness, to be surrounded with the beauty of the Lord’s mercy. “That will I seek,” says David, and we seek these things with Him, hearing His beauty and knowing His love. *Lord, grant us to seek and find Your beauty. Amen.*

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