

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Prayer of Azariah 1:4, 7, 20, 19; Psalm 48:1, 9-11**

The Lord is righteous in all His / works toward us,*
for we have not obeyed His com- / mandments.
Glorify Your / Name, O Lord:*
and deal with us according to Your great / mercy.
Great is the Lord, and greatly / to be praised*
in the city of our God, in His holy / mountain.
We have thought, O God, on Your loving- / kindness,*
in the midst of Your / temple.
According to Your / name, O God,*
so is Your praise to the ends / of the earth;
Your right hand is full of / righteousness.*
Let Mount Zion rejoice, Because of Your / judgments.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Matthew 22: 9-10**

‘Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all they found, both bad and good.

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Grant, we implore You, merciful Lord, to Your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve You with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness

TLH 305, LSB 636
Johann Franck



1. Soul, adorn thyself with gladness,
Leave behind all gloom and sadness;
Come into the daylight's splendor,
There with joy thy praises render
Unto Him whose grace unbounded
Hath this wondrous supper founded.
High o'er all the heavens He reigneth,
Yet to dwell with thee He deigneth.

7. Jesus, Sun of Life, my Splendor,
Jesus, Thou my Friend most tender,
Jesus, Joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring, --

At Thy feet I cry, my Maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Thy glory, given.

8. Lord, by love and mercy driven
Thou hast left Thy throne in heaven
On the cross for us to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Thy blood in sadness.
By this blood, redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise Thee with thanksgiving.



“Resisting the Flesh at Home in the World”

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 October 14-20, 2018

THEME OF THE WEEK: Resisting the Flesh at Home in the World

The Lord, in His mercy, continues to call, over and over again, those who do not deserve to be called. He calls those along the highway to the banquet. He calls us out of the darkness and death of our sin. He calls those who do not ask or seek. He calls evangelists such as St. Luke. He calls the gentiles. He calls those who were once far off. And, in His continued mercy, He calls you. He has promised to send you His Word. He delivers, redeems, and grants life to you, His dear child. All of this He does, only out of His divine, fatherly goodness, and apart from any merit or worthiness in any of us.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 22:1-14: Made Worthy through His Call

“Those who were invited were not worthy.” In times past, the Lord called His people, the Israelites, to be faithful to Him and His Word. But that people continued to ignore His Word. The Lord therefore extends His call to those outside the nation of Israel. He sends Christians out to the ends of the earth to call as many as can be found to come and join the Lord at the great wedding banquet prepared in honor of His Son, our Lord Jesus. This banquet awaits us all, who trust in His Word and heed His call to gather in the wedding hall as His guests. *Blessed Lord, thank You for calling me to the wedding banquet. May I always be found wearing Your wedding garment. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:153-160: God's Eternal Promises

In the midst of our sin, our affliction, and the persecutions from those who hate the Lord, our God continues to care for us, His Christians. He delivers us from our enemies. He redeems us from our sin and death. He gives life through His Word and Sacraments. All this He does (not because we deserve it or because we've earned it or because we're good) because of His steadfast love. He's bound Himself to the promises of His Word. His Word of promise endures forever and is always there for us to grab ahold of, so that we can call upon God in every trouble and trust Him to answer in whatever way is best. *Lord, thank You for Your promises to redeem, deliver, and bring me to life. May I always trust in them. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:15-21: Sins Brought into the Light

The devil wants us to keep our sins hidden and secret. He wants us to not call them by name and confess them. By doing this they are kept in the dark, out of the light of the world, but also out of the light of forgiveness. But Jesus would have us confess our sins, to name them, and bring them into the light. By the light of Christ our sins are made visible. What makes us dead in our trespasses is forgiven by the Word of Christ as our pastor speaks it to us: “I forgive you your sins”. From that forgiveness our Lord Jesus raises us from death to live as His people. Being alive, having heard the word of the Gospel, we walk in His wisdom and truth. *Lord Jesus, may I ever, by Your aid, confess my sins and live in Your forgiveness. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 65:1, 2: Called by the Gospel

“I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to Him, but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel.” So we confess in the catechism. And so also does the Lord preach through Isaiah. The people whom the Lord has given Himself did not seek Him, nor did they ask for Him, nor were they called by His name. They were rebellious, walking in their own ways which were not good. At the time this referred to the Israelites. Now it also refers to us. The Lord has drawn us to Himself in spite of our own wickedness and rebellion against Him. He is good and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. *Lord, thank You for calling me by Your Gospel, keep me from trusting in my own merit for Your mercy. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:1-9: Words from a Physician's Hand

Today we remember St. Luke the physician, who was both a doctor of the body and the soul. The Lord called Him to journey with St. Paul and to write an account of the Lord's calling of the nations, beginning with the birth of John the Baptist, through the ministry of Paul until his death in Rome. Through the hand of Luke, the Lord tells us of the sending of many into the harvest field, to call sinners to repentance and to proclaim to them “The kingdom of God has come near to you.” We are called to have that same work of the Lord today, as He continues to send laborers, and as we continue to pray that He would continue that work and proclamation among us. *Lord, continue to send to us faithful preachers to proclaim Your Word to us. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Romans 11:25-32: Made Part of God's People

“A partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.” The people of Israel refused to heed God's call to repentance, and so He hardened their hearts to hearing His Word. At the same time, the Lord extended the call of the Gospel to all nations. Even though we were also found in our sin and disobedience, the Lord, in His mercy, called us by His Word to repentance and faith. St. Paul tells us that this is so God's plan, that all would be saved and come to a full knowledge of the truth, would come to pass. God has issued the call. It cannot be withdrawn. His mercy is for all people, for all time, forever. *Lord, thank You for making me a member of Your people through the church. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 57: Praise for God's Mercy

We have seen it in the texts this week. The Lord's mercy, love, and forgiveness to us is boundless. He calls us who should not have been called. He loves us, who are His enemies. He has mercy where none is deserved. And for all of this, we learn from David in this psalm that our response is two-fold: first, we thank and praise Him for His kindness. We sing to Him. We tell others of His goodness. Second, we pray that God would continue to give us more. More mercy. More forgiveness. More of what He has already promised and already given, life and salvation. And our Lord, Who hears that prayer, delights to give us more, for He is merciful. *Lord, thank You for Your mercy. May my cup always be overflowing with it. Amen.*

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