

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Ecclesiasticus 36:16-17a; Psalm 122:1, 6, 8-9

Give peace, O Lord, to those who / wait for You:\*  
and let Your prophets be proven / faithful.  
Hear the prayer of Your / servants,\*  
according to the blessing of Aaron upon Your / people.  
I was glad when they / said to me,\*  
“Let us go into the house / of the Lord.”  
Pray for the peace of Je- / rusalem:\*  
“May they prosper who / love you.  
For the sake of my brethren and com- / panions,\*  
I will now say, “Peace be with- / in you.”  
Because of the house of the / Lord our God\*  
I will / seek your good.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK 1 Corinthians 1:9

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, forasmuch as without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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  
**Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart**

TLH 429, LSB 708  
Martin Shalling



1. Lord, Thee I love with all my heart;  
I pray Thee ne'er from me depart,  
With tender mercies cheer me.  
Earth has no pleasure I would share,  
Yea, heaven itself were void and bare  
If Thou, Lord, wert not near me.  
And should my heart for sorrow break,  
My trust in Thee no one could shake.  
Thou art the Portion I have sought;  
Thy precious blood my soul has bought.  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
My God and Lord, my God and Lord,  
Forsake me not! I trust Thy Word.

3. Lord, let at last Thine angels come,  
To Abram's bosom bear me home,  
That I may die unfearing;  
And in its narrow chamber keep  
My body safe in peaceful sleep  
Until Thy reappearing.  
And then from death awaken me  
That these mine eyes with joy may see,  
O Son of God, Thy glorious face,  
My Savior and my Fount of grace,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
My prayer attend, my prayer attend,  
And I will praise Thee without end.



**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 15-21, 2017

### THEME OF THE WEEK: Singlehearted Love of God in Christ

A common question among Christians is, "How do I know God loves me?" They can answer this question by trying to feel God's love or look for ways that their life is going well or badly in order to determine if God loves them. These ways, and the many like them, look to ourselves instead of looking to Holy Scripture to find God's love. Scripture repeatedly points us to Jesus Christ as the full expression of God's love for you. How do you know God loves you? Jesus died and rose from the dead for you. That's the certainty of God's love. God's love for you is found in the person and action of Jesus Christ.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 22:34-46 The Greatest Commandment is love

For people who love to rank things, Jesus' summary of the Commandments is both wonderful and confusing at the same time. It's great because Jesus ranks the first table of the law as the Great Commandment but then He also gives a second Great Commandment. So, which one is greatest? Love. The Greatest Commandment is love and love is the summary of every Commandment. They are fulfilled in Christ and His great love towards us and then, by faith, we love God and we love our neighbor. Love is a gift from God and it is also a commandment to live by. *Loving God, enable me to love You and others with all my heart. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:137-144 Well-tried promises

You know how well a person keeps their promise when it becomes difficult for them to keep that promise and yet they still keep it. It's easy to make a promise to someone when it won't be hard to keep that promise. God has made a promise to you that He will always be with you and see you through your trouble and anguish. That promise will be well-tried when you reject the ways of God or when you find yourself assaulted by the ways of the devil or the world. As difficult as you may think it is for God to keep His promises, you can be assured that He won't forget them or you. *Father, thank You for caring for me. Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 1:4-9 A faithful God sends His Son

The Lord God who created all that is seen and unseen loves what He has made. His love for His children causes Him to send His Son, Jesus Christ, to earth to redeem humanity from the fall into sin. God didn't create things and then forget about them. Instead, He continues to be faithful to that which He has created. Learn from Him what faithfulness and love looks like. He gives what needs to be given and fulfills all of His promises to you. *Faithful Father, cause me to rejoice in Your Son who has redeemed me. Amen.*

WED

### SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:1-9 The plentiful harvest requires laborers

Today the Church remembers St. Luke the Evangelist. He is called the beloved physician (Col 4:14) and writes the Gospel with his name attached and the book of Acts. His Gospel is unique in that it spends more words on the birth narrative and has many canticles that become the songs of the Church. Because of what Luke wrote, God's Word comes to you. You become a part of that harvest that is brought into the barns of God's love. In addition, God will in turn use you to go out into the harvest field to share God's Word in Luke's Gospel. *Lord, thank You for Your Word that points me to You. Amen.*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: John 15:1-17 Abide in Me

A beloved hymn is called Abide with Me. In this hymn, the prayer is that God would abide with God's people. The final line says, "In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me." God's people of faith pray this prayer because we know that we are in God and God is in us. The certainty of faith tells us that we abide in God. Christ has died for you and by the blood of Jesus Christ, your life and death are all in the arms of your beloved God. *Lord, when my last hour comes, bring me at last to my heavenly home. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: 1 John 3:1-8 God's love changes you

When God's love is given to you, you are changed into a child of God. A child of God lives and abides in God's Word and so then also practices righteousness. To be righteous is to have Christ's righteousness upon you by faith. Living by faith you won't keep on sinning because Jesus is in you. Yes, there is a struggle within you between your sinful nature and Christ's righteousness, but yet your victory is found in Jesus. You are now a child of God and so you are now also righteous. *God, make me righteous as You are righteous. Amen.*

SAT

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 54 Delivered from every trouble

Think to a time when you encountered trouble in your life. It may be your own sin, someone's sin against you, or a disaster that happens upon you. Because God loves you so fiercely, He will deliver you from every trouble. He forgives your sin, covers your shame, and walks you through the disaster. We will often try to deliver ourselves and fix the problems on our own, but the real and lasting solution comes in the form of a Savior, Jesus Christ. Lean on Him for He is the one who has triumphed over your enemies. *Dear Jesus, deliver me from my enemies. Amen.*