

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 119:137, 124, 1-2, 5-6

Righteous are / You, O Lord,*
and upright are Your / judgments.
Deal with Your servant according to Your / mercy,*
and teach me Your / statutes.
Blessed are the undefiled / in the way,*
who walk in the law / of the Lord!
Blessed are those who keep His testi- / monies,*
who seek Him with the / whole heart!
Oh, that my ways were / directed*
to keep Your / statutes!
Then I would not / be ashamed,*
when I look into all Your com- / mandments.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK 1 Samuel 2:6
“The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; 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
In Thee Alone, O Christ, My Lord

TLH 319
Johannes Schneising



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| <p>1. In Thee alone, O Christ, my Lord,
My hope on earth remaineth;
I know Thou wilt Thine aid afford,
Nought else my soul sustaineth.
No strength of man, no earthly stay
Can help me in the evil day;
Thou, only Thou, canst aid supply.
To Thee I cry;
On Thee I bid my heart rely.</p> | <p>3. O Lord, in mercy stay my heart
On faith's most sure foundation
And to my inmost soul impart
Thy perfect consolation.
Fill all my life with love to Thee,
Toward all men grant me charity;
And at the last, when comes my end,
Thy succor send.
From Satan's wiles my soul defend.</p> |
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“Humble Love of Brothers in Faith”

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 8-14, 2017

THEME OF THE WEEK: Humble Love of Brothers in Faith

God kills and makes alive again (1 Sam. 2:6). Through this action, we are humbled under the mighty hand of God through the Law, which puts to death in us all sin and evil desire. He makes us alive again through Christ our Lord, who has humbled Himself to the point of death, even death on the cross. As those redeemed by His death, we now live our lives in the light of His life. Having been renewed and regenerated by the Holy Spirit's work in the Word and Baptism, we now live our lives in humble service to others.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:1-11: The first are last, and the last are first

The Law calls us to love the neighbor as the self. Our Lord is the perfect example of what the Law requires, as Jesus humbled Himself to the point of death, even death on the cross (Philippians 2) in order to exult us before our Heavenly Father. It is this cruciform humility that shapes the Christian life. Through the Law, God instructs us how to love the neighbor. Though we cannot keep God's Law in its entirety, God mysteriously uses our sin-tainted works to provide love and support to those around us.

O God, humble us by Your Law that we might be exulted in Your presence. Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:129-136: Redeem me to keep your precepts

The Law serves to curb outward evil and show us our sin. But it also teaches us how to live a life pleasing in God's sight. As Christians who have been redeemed from sin and death, we have been freed from the self-centeredness of sin to live a life of faith toward God and fervent love toward the neighbor.

O Lord, make Your face to shine upon us and teach us to keep Your statutes. Amen.

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:1-6: United by Baptism into Christ

St. Paul reminds us here that we are united together in a spirit of love that flows out of the font, where God has claimed us as His children, uniting us into the mystical body of Christ. Therefore, we are to seek unity above all. But this unity does not come at the expense of Christ's Word, for it is in His Word that the Church finds her true unity in the crucified and risen body of her Lord.

O Lord, You have called us into one body, the Church; grant us to bear with one another in love. Amen.

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WED

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 2:1-10: God exults the humble

After Hannah receives the blessing of the child Samuel, she prays a prayer similar in tone to Mary's Magnificat in Luke 1. Here is a warning that God humbles those who are proud, but He promises to exult those who are of humble estate. Who are the humble? They are those who fear, love, and trust in God above all things, looking to Christ alone for every good thing.

O Lord, teach us not to trust in the might of man for salvation, but to look only to Christ. Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: Mark 2:18-28: Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath

On Sunday, we heard of Jesus' healing of the man with dropsy and the ensuing parable of the wedding feast. Today, this takes a slightly different turn to show what the humility of Jesus drives Him to do in order to serve His people. In healing on the Sabbath, Jesus shows us the true purpose of that day: to bring God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation to His people. Thus, the Divine Service is not about what we are to do for God, but what our God does for us in His Word and Sacraments.

O Lord, save us by Your gracious power, working through the means of grace. Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Jude 20-25: God's Mercy in Christ

God has shown us mercy in our Lord Christ Jesus, snatching us from death and the fire of hell. As those redeemed by Christ, we are made partakers of God's mercy work to those around us. It is our joy to participate in this work by proclaiming the hope found in Christ alone to those who are perishing. Though God does not need us, He is pleased to use us to bring others into His kingdom.

O Lord, keep us from the temptations of the evil one, and give us boldness to proclaim Your saving work to others. Amen.

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 56: Delivered from death to walk in life

Psalm 56 is a prayer for the baptized. As we have been baptized into the death of Christ, we have been raised again to live a new life before God in righteousness and purity forever. God redeems us so that we walk before him in the light of life. This is present tense! We live a new life now, putting our sinful nature to death daily and striving to live before God according to His Word. This is the work of the Holy Spirit in us even now, as we wait for the revelation of our eternal lives on the Last Day.

O Lord, because You have delivered us from death, grant us to walk before You in the light of life. Amen.

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