

5

PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK 1 Peter 2:2, Psalm 81:1, 7, 10, 16

As newborn babes, Alle- | luia,*
 desire the pure milk of the Word. Alleluia. Alle- | luia.
 Sing aloud to | God our strength;*
 make a joyful shout to the God of | Jacob.
 You called in trouble, and I de- | livered you;*
 I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.
 I am the | Lord your God,*
 who brought you out of the land of | Egypt;
 open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.*
 With honey from the rock I would have sa- | tisfied you.

6

SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK 1 Peter 1:18-19

"...you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your fathers, not with perishable things such as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot."

7

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

8

PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty and merciful God, as You have brought us to celebrate the festival of the Lord's resurrection, cause us by Your grace to bring forth the fruits thereof in our life and conduct; through the same 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
I Am Content! My Jesus Liveth Still!

TLH 196, LSB 468

Johann J. Möller



1. I am content! My Jesus liveth still,
 In whom my heart is pleased.
 He hath fulfilled the Law of God for me,
 God's wrath He hath appeased.
 Since He in death could perish never,
 I also shall not die forever.
 I am content! I am content!

2. I am content! My Jesus is my Head;
 His member I will be.
 He bowed His head when on the cross He died
 With cries of agony.
 Now death is brought into subjection
 For me, too, by His resurrection.
 I am content! I am content!

5. I am content! Lord, draw me unto Thee
 And wake me from the dead
 That I may rise forevermore to be
 With Thee, my living Head.
 The fetters of my body sever,
 Then shall my soul rejoice forever.
 I am content! I am content!



Around the Word Devotions + April 27-May 3, 2025

"He is Risen to Bring Us Forgiveness and 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 April 27-May 3, 2025

THEME OF THE WEEK: He is Risen to Bring Us Forgiveness and Faith

Everything that Jesus did in His life and death was for us. His birth is for us; His teaching for us; His dying for us; and His resurrection is for us. His resurrection means our sins are forgiven. His resurrection means our death is conquered and our grave is open. His resurrection means that we have nothing to fear in life and death. Death left scars in the hands and side of Jesus, and as we behold these with Thomas all of our doubts and fears are scattered, and in their place is faith and comfort, the confession that Jesus is not only Lord and God, but “our Lord” and “our God.” Christ is risen indeed!

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 20:19-31 Peace Which Surpasses Our Sins

“Peace be with you.” That’s the core of the reality which we have through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Peace. Because we have inherited the sin of Adam, we are enemies of God. We, in our sin, are at war with Him. But because Christ has come and has suffered the punishment of our sins and has given to us His righteousness, we are declared to be, not the enemies of God, but His friends. We are set at peace. That peace comes particularly to us through these words: “I forgive you.” In those blessed words we are forgiven and declared to be at peace with God, through Jesus’s death and resurrection. *Lord, thank You for setting me at peace with You through the declaration that in You my sins are forgiven. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 111 The Lord is Gracious and Merciful

Jesus is crucified and the disciples hide. Death does not hold the Savior. His promises do not fail. The risen Savior continues to seek us so that He might personally deliver the gifts He won for us. He breaks through all the barricades of fear and appears to His disciples, saying, “Peace be with you.” At the sound of His greeting and the sight of His wounds their hearts are gladdened. Their fear melts away. They are forgiven, at peace with the Lord. The Lord returns the next Sunday. Thomas is present to hear the words, “Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas is given the faith to respond, “My Lord and my God!” *Risen Savior, attend to us each Sunday as we gather that we, who have not seen, may also receive Your forgiveness and faith. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 5:4-10 Washed in Victory

When we look around at the world, we are tempted to be afraid. The world, after all, often looks big and scary and it likes to act like it has all authority. But St. John reminds us that all of us who are born of God, all of us who are the Lord’s Baptized, have already overcome the world. We have been born of water and the spirit. We have Christ’s atoning blood placed into our mouths. We have the gift of the Holy Spirit. And with these we need not fear the world, nor sin, death, or devil, because they have all already been conquered by Jesus. He belongs to us and we belong to Him and so what can these things do to us? As Jesus has said: “Fear not, I have overcome the world.” *Lord, thank You for overcoming the world and giving me that same victory in You. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Job 19:25-27 My Redeemer Lives

Jesus lives and that means Job will live too. The Redeemer given into death has conquered death. He leads us through the grave and out again with Him. Job’s skin will be destroyed, yet he will rise in his flesh and his eyes will see God. We believe in the resurrection of the body. This is better than vague and immaterial ideas about ‘heaven.’ Jesus preaches a resurrection faith. You will, in your flesh, rise from the grave and live. Take heart, even as the wages of sin is death, the free gift of God is life everlasting in Christ Jesus our Lord, and our Redeemer. *O LORD, through the resurrection of Your Son, grant us to rise in our bodies and rejoice in You. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 21: 15-19 Feed My Sheep

Jesus restored Peter to his office in accordance with the promise He made before His suffering and death. In this text, we also see Christ giving Peter a Divine directive to feed His flock. This reminds us of the primary reason for which God sends pastors into His Church. They are to feed and tend God’s flock as under shepherds of the Good Shepherd—Jesus Christ. This feeding is found in the Word and Sacraments that Jesus gives as the instruments to care for His flock. Even as the Christian walks through the valley of the shadow of death, the pastor is there as Christ’s man to help him follow Christ through death into life. *O Lord, keep my pastor faithful to Your Holy Word, that I may be brought to good pasture. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 1:17-2:3 Like Newborn Infants

This Sunday’s Latin name, Quasimodogeniti, comes from the antiphon for the introit, found in this epistle reading. Here, we see the pastoral heart of St. Peter, who is feeding His flock and the Church of all time, through the preaching recorded in this Epistle. Part of true Apostolic preaching is exhortation to holy living. This kind of preaching certainly accuses us in our sin, but it is also preaching that we, who have been born anew through the water and the Word in Baptism, can delight in. God’s instruction is food to the Christian, and we live by every word that comes from the mouth of God. *O Lord, teach me to delight in Your statutes and not to forget Your Word. Amen. (Ps. 119:16)*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 4 Sleeping in Heavenly Peace

In the midst of our distress, especially the distress which comes in light of death, what can bring any hope or joy? The promise that just as Christ was raised from the dead, so too will we. We can lay our heads down in sleep, the beautiful picture of the scriptures for our death in Christ, knowing with full confidence that we will be awakened by Him on the last day. “In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.” That is our constant hope and joy in the midst of all trial. *Death’s poison cannot harm me now, Thy blood new life bestoweth; My shadow from the heat art Thou, When noonday’s sunlight gloweth. When I’m by inward grief oppress’d, On Thee my weary soul shall rest, As sick men on their pillows. Amen.*

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