

5

## PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 18:18-19, 1-2, 27, 30, 49

The Lord was / my support.\*

In the day of my ca- / lamity

He brought me out into a / broad place;\*

He delivered me because He delight- / ed in me.

I will love You, O / Lord, my strength.\*

The Lord is my rock and my / fortress.

For You will save the humble / people,\*

but will bring down / haughty looks.

As for God, His way is / perfect;\*

the word of the Lord is / proven;

I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the / Gentiles,\*

and sing praises / to Your name.

6

## SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 28:7

"The Lord is my strength and my shield, my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped."

7

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

8

## PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, who never fails to help and govern those whom You bring up in Your steadfast fear and love, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9

## PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10

## SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK

## Oh, How Great is Your Compassion

TLH 384, LSB 559

Johann Olearius



1. Oh, how great is Thy compassion,  
Faithful Father, God of grace,  
That with all our fallen race  
And in our deep degradation  
Thou wast merciful that we  
Might be saved eternally!

2. Thy great love for this hath striven  
That we may from sin be free  
And forever live with Thee;  
Yea, Thy Son Himself hath given  
And extends an earnest call  
To His Supper unto all.

3. And for this our soul's salvation  
Voucheth Thy good Spirit, Lord,  
In Thy Sacraments and Word.  
He imparts true consolation,  
Granteth us the gift of faith  
That we fear nor hell nor death.

4. Lord, Thy mercy will not leave me,-  
Truth doth evermore abide,-  
Then in Thee I will confide.  
Since Thy Word cannot deceive me,  
My salvation is to me  
Well assured eternally.



Around the Word Devotions + June 29-July 5, 2025

"The Spirit's Call to Fellowship with God"

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 June 29-July 5, 2025

### THEME OF THE WEEK: The Spirit's Call to Fellowship with God

Life and death, love and peace, this week has it all. The Lord warns us and comforts us, He commands us and blesses us. The Lord gives us all we need for this life and for the life to come, and all of it comes from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We are found by God, called into the feast of His love, given His Kingdom and Spirit, and blessed in every way. May the Lord Jesus give us His Spirit so that we would rejoice this week and always in His kindness.

SUN

#### SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:16-24 A Gracious Invitation

Those who have much take it for granted and those who have little often appreciate everything they receive. Thus after those who were originally invited reject the invitation to the banquet because they had better things to do, the master invites the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame. He invites the foreigners and sojourners on the highways and sleeping under the hedges. They hear the gracious invitation with joy and come. We pray that the Holy Spirit through the Holy Scriptures grants us faith to receive the invitation and teaches us to appreciate the invitation to be at Christ's banquet. *Lord, we thank You for the invitation. Help us to be faithful. Amen.*

MON

#### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:9-16 Delighting in the Lord's Statutes

We are called to delight in the Word. "I will delight myself in Your statutes" (119:16). This is more than reading and studying, it has to do with our affections, our joy. Luther reminds us that the 3rd Commandment has us "gladly" hearing and learning the Word. There is a spiritual battle over our attention and affection, and the devil would have us delight in anything other than the Word of God. But this Word is God's mind made known, His kindness and love revealed. His Word gives us comfort and courage. It is a lamp and light in the dark, and a solid foundation when nothing seems solid at all. His Word is delightful, and by the Holy Spirit, we'll catch on to that. *Lord, give us delight in Your Word. Amen.*

TUE

#### SCRIPTURE: 1 John 3:13-18 Love is Passing from Death to Life

"We know that we have passed from death to life because we love the brethren." Love is life. Because of His great love for us, the Father sent His only begotten Son to die for us. Because of His great love for us, the Son gave His life as the propitiation for our sins. Because of His great love for us, the Holy Spirit comes to us with the promise of kindness and the strength of salvation. The love of God is our life. And this love of God for us spills over into our life of love for our neighbor. We love because He first loved us. We love because His love made us alive. *O Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, make us alive with Your love. Amen.*

WED

#### SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 25:6-9 Fellowship through Feasting

Isaiah prophesies the end of incredible destruction and the enthronement of God for all to see, and His gracious provision for all nations in the abundance of the Gospel: chiefly, death will be undone. This is cause to rejoice for what had separated people from God, sin leading to death, is removed. Isaiah's prophecy is Messianic, for only the Divine Son's immaculate sacrifice could atone for the sin of men. So it is, that through the Son, we have fellowship and commune with God in body and blood, partaking of the feast of eternal life. And in this feast we look forward to its fullness at His glorious appearing: I will come to him and eat with him and he with Me (Rev. 3:20). *Grant, Lord, that I now receive You, That I nevermore will leave You. Amen.*

THU

#### SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:25-35 The First Mention of the Cross

In this text we have the first mention of the "cross" in the Gospels. And look, it's not the cross of Jesus. It's your cross. "Whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple." Jesus calls us to a life that will include suffering, a life of heartache and sorrow. We walk through a veil of tears. But the cross does not only mean sorrow, it also means forgiveness, life, and salvation. It also delivers from death and hell. The cross means that God is not our enemy, but our friend. So our crosses are a light load. Jesus carries the heavy stuff, the sin and death and sorrow, and we walk with Him, bearing the yoke made light by His mercy. *Lord Jesus, thank You for carrying my burdens of sin and death, and placing on me the joy of Your salvation. Amen.*

FRI

#### SCRIPTURE: Revelation 3:14-22 To the Church in Laodicea

Jesus dictates seven beautiful letters to the church, His beloved. In this final letter to the Laodiceans He stirs them up, disrupting the coldness of their pride. "We are rich; we need nothing." "No," says Jesus, "you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked." Jesus freezes them with the Law and then fires them up with the Gospel. "I cover the shame of your nakedness, I will give you sight. My treasures make you rich." This is the zeal of repentance, knowing the depth of our sin and the height of Jesus' love. May the Holy Spirit create the same in our hearts and congregations. *Heavenly Father, cover our shame, heal our poverty, forgive our sins, and give us eyes to see the life and joy You have won for us. Amen.*

SAT

#### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 28 Our Strength and Our Shield

David prayed this psalm against his enemies, that the Lord Himself would be both his strength and his shield, when he was delivered from the threats of Saul, Absalom, and other enemies. Jesus prayed this psalm as "the saving refuge of His anointed" in the flesh, for He was anointed by the Father to be the eternal refuge of God's people. And you, in Christ alone, "pray this psalm against the tyrants and against the rebellious spirits . . . [who] seek the corruption of souls and are, under sheep's clothing, ravaging wolves" (Luther). Let us conclude this week by praying the last verse of this Psalm, which is sung as part of the Te Deum ("We Praise Thee, O God"): *O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance! Govern them and lift them up forever. Amen.*

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