

5

PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 28:8-9, 1-2, 7**

The Lord / is their strength,*
 and He is the saving refuge of His a- / nointed.
 Save Your people, and bless Your in- / heritance;*
 shepherd them also, and bear them up for- / ever.
 To You I will cry, O / Lord my Rock:*
 do not be si- / lent to me,
 lest, if You are si- / lent to me,*
 I become like those who go down / to the pit.
 Hear the voice of my supplications when I / cry to You,*
 when I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctu- / ary.
 The Lord is my strength / and my shield;*
 my heart trusted in Him, and / I am helped.

6

SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Romans 6:4**

"We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."

7

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

8

PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord of all power and might, the Author and Giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9

PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10

SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall

TLH 369, LSB 562
 Lazarus Spengler



- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. All mankind fell in Adam's fall,
 One common sin infects them all;
 From sire to son the bane descends,
 And over all the curse impends.</p> <p>2. Through all man's powers corruption creeps
 And him in dreadful bondage keeps;
 In guilt he draws his infant breath
 And reaps its fruits of woe and death.</p> | <p>5. As by one man all mankind fell
 And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
 So by one Man, who took our place,
 We all received the gift of grace.</p> <p>6. We thank Thee, Christ; new life is ours,
 New light, new hope, new strength, new pow-
 ers: May grace our every way attend
 Until we reach our journey's end!</p> |
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Around the Word Devotions + July 27-August 2, 2025

"The Righteousness Born of Baptismal Grace"

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 July 27-August 2, 2025

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Righteousness Born of Baptismal Grace

We are sinners, which is particularly troubling when we learn that the Lord hates sin. But instead of pouring out His wrath on us, the Lord poured out His wrath on Jesus, and poured out Jesus' righteousness on us. Our righteousness, then, is not our own; neither our works, nor our obedience, but Jesus' — His works, His obedience, His suffering and death. We have an "alien righteousness," a righteousness that comes from outside of us. This righteousness is given to us in baptism, where our sins are washed away, and we are adopted into the holy family of God. We rejoice this week in this gift of righteousness.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:20-26 The RIGHTEOUSNESS Born of Baptismal Grace

The righteousness born of baptismal grace is very different from the false righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees. Outwardly they were the most righteous of all, yes, even "white-washed tombs." But inwardly they were as dead men's bones. Your righteousness, O baptized child of God, is the genuine righteousness of full and free forgiveness in Christ alone. Meditate on Jesus' expansion of the Law here to bring you to repentance. And rejoice in the righteousness of the One who speaks these words. For He came to keep the Law for you, that you would be saved, fed, and declared holy for His sake. *Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, Be praised for this blest mystery: That Word and water thus revive / And join us to Your Tree of Life (LSB 595.5). Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Ps 119, sixth part (WAW v41-48) Faith Creating Words

The Lord teaches us to pray to always have with us steadfast love, salvation, the word of truth, etc. but then reminds us that this is connected to our trust, hope, and delight in the Lord's Word. These two must always go together. The Word of God gives us our faith. These words are planted deep into our hearts and minds in hearing the scriptures, meditating upon them day and night, rejoicing in the preaching of the church, and receiving the sacraments. These same words create, nourish, and sustain our faith and cause us to rejoice more and more in them. This is never perfect in this life, but we continue to strive toward that end. *Heavenly Father, help me to always rejoice in the gift of Your Word to me and to receive it with joy. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:3-11 Death, Life, and Baptism

In our baptism we are buried, but we are not alone, we are buried "with Christ," and this is good news. Jesus has sorted out how to get out of the grave. He breaks out of the tomb. He leaves the grasp of death. And there you are next to Him! Being buried with Christ means that you will be raised with Him. All of this happens in your baptism: the old Adam dies, the new man is raised, the joy of eternal life is delivered in the forgiving name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit. In our baptism we are raised, and we will never be alone. *Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of my baptism, my death and resurrection. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20:1-17 The Good and Perfect Law of God

"The law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good," writes St. Paul (Rom. 7:12). David says, "The law of the Lord is perfect" (Ps. 19:7a). We, however, are not perfect, good, righteous or holy in and of ourselves. God's good and perfect law makes this clear as day. Thankfully, for us and our salvation, there is One Man Who kept the law of God perfectly. His perfection, righteousness, goodness and holiness are yours in Holy Baptism. United with Christ and raised with Him to live a new life, we remember our baptism daily: dying to sin through contrition and repentance and rising to live and walk in God's good and perfect commandments. *Help me, O Lord, to die daily to sin and walk in Your ways to glory of Your holy name. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 19:16-30 Impossible Righteousness

"With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Many of our friends and family feel that what Jesus says is impossible is actually possible. They will attempt, like the young man, to achieve everlasting life by keeping the Commandments. We may look down on them but that just shows our own self-righteousness and that it truly is impossible for anyone to keep the law of the Lord. We know that God can accomplish the impossible so our salvation rests upon Jesus Christ. He has done the impossible and has come back from the dead to give life to you. *Jesus, thank You for doing the impossible for me. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 2:4-10 Saved by Grace to Serve Our Neighbor

"For by grace you have been saved." St. Paul repeats this twice here. Driving it into our minds. Our salvation is a gift given by God, apart from our works. We have no part in earning our eternal life. This doesn't, however, mean that we don't perform good works at all. We have been created by God, not to live in a solitary existence only for ourselves, but instead to serve our neighbor. The Lord has prepared these works for us beforehand. He shows us what these works look like in His commandments and He gives us to do them in our vocations. *Lord Jesus, help me to serve my neighbor in Love through my vocation and keep me from thinking those works of love somehow earn Your favor. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 114 Praise to the LORD

Psalm 114 recalls God's great act of rescuing His people out of Egypt and His provision for them in the wilderness. These wondrous acts of the LORD are so great, so awesome, even the earth trembles at His mighty work. The One Who rules over all things has made Judah His sanctuary and Israel His realm. That is, the LORD's salvation transformed His people into "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Ex. 19:6). The first exodus points to Christ's exodus for us. Baptized into Him "you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Pet. 2:9). *O Lord, may Your praise be on our lips constantly. Amen.*

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