

5**PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK** Psalm 77:18, 84:1-2, 4, 9-11

The lightnings lit | up the world;*
the earth trem- | bled and shook.
How lovely is Your tabernacle, O | Lord of hosts!*

My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts | of the Lord.
Blessed are those who dwell | in Your house;*
they will still be | praising You.
Behold, O | God our shield,*
and look upon the face of Your A- | nointed
For the Lord God is a | sun and shield;*
the Lord will give grace and | glory.

6**SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK** 2 Corinthians 4:6

“For God, Who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

7**READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)****8****PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

O God, who in the glorious transfiguration of Your only-begotten Son confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of the fathers and who, in the voice that came from the bright cloud, did in a wonderful manner foreshow the adoption of sons, mercifully make us co-heirs with the King of His glory and bring us to the enjoyment of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, 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****How Lovely Shines the Morning Star**

1. How lovely shines the Morning Star!
The nations see and hail afar
The light in Judah shining.
Thou David's Son of Jacob's race,
My Bridegroom and my King of Grace,
For Thee my heart is pining.
Lowly, Holy,
Great and glorious, Thou victorious
Prince of graces,
Filling all the heavenly places.

5. Thou, mighty Father, in Thy Son
Didst love me ere Thou hadst begun
This ancient world's foundation.
Thy Son hath made a friend of me,
And when in spirit Him I see,
I joy in tribulation.
What bliss Is this!
He that liveth To me giveth
Life forever;
Nothing me from Him can sever.

TLH 343, LSB 395

Philipp Nicolai

**Around the Word Devotions + January 25-31, 2026****“God Manifested in the Transfiguration of Jesus”****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 January 25-31, 2026

THEME OF THE WEEK: God Manifested in the Transfiguration of Jesus

Jesus is God in the flesh, and on the mountain of Transfiguration that divine glory shines through for all to see. But Jesus did not come to earth to be a spectacle. His incarnation is not for Himself. Like everything He does, it is for us. We remember the transfiguration when Jesus is crucified. We remember how He was covered in light when we see Him covered in blood. We remember how He talked with Moses and Elijah as we see Him placed in the tomb. We know that it is the Mighty One, the Most High, Who has humbled Himself to the point of the death on the cross, and in this we rejoice. God's glory is hidden in Christ, and we are hidden in Him as well.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 17:1-9 "It Is Good to Be Here"

Jesus is God. He is eternal, almighty, and glorious. In the transfiguration His glory shines through His flesh giving us the assurance that He is "begotten of the Father before all worlds." But Jesus lays aside His glory and presses to Jerusalem, to the Sanhedrin, to Pilate, to His condemnation, to the whip and nails and cross. Jesus lays aside the glory of the divine nature so that He could take up another glory, the glory of being the Savior. We rejoice in the Transfiguration of Jesus. It lets us see the great depth of His humiliation, and gives us the comfort that Jesus "humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:8). *Jesus, thank You that Your glory and humiliation are all for My salvation. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 87 "A Hymn of Praise to the City of God"

It is strange to sing praise to a city, but this is God's city, the heavenly Jerusalem. "Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God." This city of God is His kingdom, His people, the church, and glorious things are indeed spoken of us. We are the redeemed of the Lord. We are those ransomed from sin, rescued from death, delivered for the demonic kingdom of darkness, and transferred to the glories of the city of God. The Most High Himself has established this city, made us citizens by our baptism, registered us in the Lambs Book of Life, and keeps us safe and still in this eternal city of life and peace. *O Lord, we praise You for establishing Your city, Your Church, and enrolling us as citizens. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 2 Peter 1: 16-21 "Eyewitnesses of His Glory"

Peter reflects back on the events of his lifetime, noting that he was an eyewitness of Jesus' glory. He saw it on the mount of transfiguration. But Peter directs us not to visions of glory, but to the light of God's Word, "the prophetic word more fully confirmed." God has given us a lamp shining in darkness, a morning star rising in our hearts: His Word. The Holy Spirit, Who gave us this Word through prophets and apostles, uses this Word to call you to repentance and faith. And, having made you a child of God through water and Word, will continue to preserve you in this faith through the same. *Heavenly Father, send us Your Holy Spirit to preserve us in Your Word, and teach us to trust not what we see, but what You have said in Your Word. Amen.*

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WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61: 10, 11 "Hidden in the Lord's Beauty"

I imagine forgiveness as a taking away. The Lord takes away our sin, puts away our mistakes, removes our transgressions. True. But there is more. Forgiveness is also an addition. The Lord gives to us His righteousness, His perfection, His holiness, His keeping the Law, His obedience. This garment of the righteousness of Christ, the beautiful, exquisite, brilliant, dazzling, beaming, flawless, stunning, radiant robe of woven perfection is wrapped around your neck and draped across your shoulders and covers your shame and uncleanness and sin. He shares His beauty with you. "My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation. He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness." *We praise You, O LORD! Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 11: 25-27 "Soul Rest"

Rest for our bodies is nice. Jesus gives something more. "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest... you will find rest for your souls." Our souls are always busy with the dangerous work of preparing for the judgment day. We are working to be good enough, holy enough, righteous enough to stand before God, and all these works fail. All have sinned. All fall short of God's glory. All are guilty. But Jesus has done the work. His suffering and death is your salvation. The work, Jesus says, "is finished!" He meant it. Your salvation is accomplished. In His promise our hearts find comfort and peace. In His Gospel our souls, at last, find rest. *Lord Jesus, take away our sin and give us Your easy yoke and light burden. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 4: 5, 6 "Light Up the Dark"

The LORD is always putting lights in dark places. Into the darkness that covered the new earth He said, "Let there be light." In the Egyptian wilderness He stood up a pillar of fire. He hung a star one night in Bethlehem. And in perhaps the deepest darkness He has "shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." We, the people who dwelt in darkness, have seen a great light. Jesus is the light of the world, but more, His light shining in our hearts shows us the way to the Father, the way to life eternal. *Enlighten our hearts, O God, by the brightness and glory of the face of Christ. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 8 "The Humility and Glory of the Son of Man"

Psalm 8 comes alive when we see that the "Son of Man" in verse 4 is Jesus. He, astonishingly, was made lower than the angels in His humiliation and death. He was exalted and crowned with glory and honor in His resurrection and ascension. He suffered before He entered into glory, and this is why the LORD's name is declared as excellent in all the earth. The Lord is not just great, He is great for us, wonderful for us. With wonder we say: the Lord was pleased to be glorified in humiliation, and wonderful in His redeeming death. We praise the most excellent name of the Lord: "Jesus," the One Who saves His people from their sins. *O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth. Amen.*

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