5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 47:1-2, 3, 6-8

Oh, clap your hands, all you / peoples!*
Shout to God with the voice of / triumph!
For the Lord Most High is / awesome;*
He is a great King over / all the earth.
He will subdue the peoples / under us,*
and the nations un - / der our feet.
Sing praises to God, sing / praises!*
Sing praises to our King, sing / praises!
For God is the King of / all the earth;*
sing praises with under- / standing.
God reigns over the / nations;*
God sits on His / holy throne.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psam 103:13

"As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him."

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, whose never-failing providence orders all things both in heaven and earth, we humbly implore You to put away from us all hurtful things and give to us those things that be profitable for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

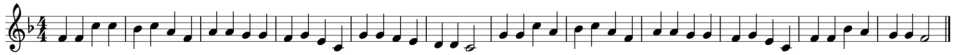
9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK

TLH 425, LSB 732

All Depends on Our Possessing

Unknown



1. All depends on our possessing
God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart.
He who trusts with faith unshaken
In His God is not forsaken
And e'er keeps a dauntless heart.

2. He who hitherto hath fed me
And to many joys hath led me,
Is and ever shall be mine.
He who did so gently school me,
He who still doth guide and rule me,
Will remain my Help divine.

4. When with sorrow I am stricken,
Hope my heart anew will quicken,
All my longing shall be stilled.
To His loving-kindness tender
Soul and body I surrender;
For in Him alone I build.

Around the Word Devotions + July 19-25, 2026

"Submission to the Lord of Compassion"

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 19-25, 2026

THEME OF THE WEEK: Submission to the Lord of Compassion

Jesus has compassion on the crowd. He knows what every man, woman, and child risked when they left the safety of their homes to be blessed by Him through His Word. They didn't know where they were going to get bread in such a desolate place, but they also realized there are greater treasures than earthly loaves. Jesus gives Himself, the living bread from heaven. He gives words of eternal life. Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33). Just so, He feeds these poor souls with living bread and added to it the daily bread that helps and supports the needs of their bodies.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Mark 8:1-9 Satisfied With His Gifts

"They ate and were satisfied." The Lord desires that we would be satisfied with His gifts. He desires that we would rejoice in what He gives to us in our homes, in society, and especially in the Church. And He desires that we would rejoice in Him, as all these good gifts flow from His hand. The temptation is always to seek satisfaction in the gifts themselves instead of the One Who gives the gifts. We should be reminded that the gifts, though good, are not God. They come from God but they are good because of the One Who gives them. Our trust and contentment is placed in the giver, not the gifts. *Lord, thank You for Your many gifts. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:49-56 Promises Which Make Alive

When we endure suffering, where do we turn? We turn with the psalmist who teaches us to pray: "This is my comfort in my affliction, that Your promise gives me life." Our afflictions and sufferings are always trying to pull us into despair and doubt. The devil, too, likes to use these things to bring us into all sorts of anguish, especially in our conscience. However, the promise of the Lord-- that in Christ we are forgiven, that we will be raised on the last day, that we will be like He is-- gives us life, both now, and in eternity. And this promise, this Gospel, guards us from falling into the temptations of the world, devil, and our flesh, and sets us firmly in the Lord's kindness. *Lord, thank You for giving me the words of eternal life. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:19-23 Wages and Gifts

We confess in the Small Catechism that our Heavenly Father gives us all good things "without any merit or worthiness in me." (Creed, 1st Article). If our Father would give us what we deserve, that is, by our merit, no one would be saved, let alone be given a breath of fresh air or a morsel of food. For "the wages of sin is death. But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Our wages, what we earn, what we deserve is death because of our sin. But God in His mercy gives us not only air and food, hearth and family, and all good gifts, but gives us His greatest gift - the forgiveness of our sins - freely, as a gift. *Lord Jesus, I earn nothing before You but death. Give to me Your grace to believe Your promises and thus receive Your forgiveness. Amen.*

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WED

SCRIPTURE: *Jeremiah 31:23-25 Words That Bless God*

What we say reflects the state of our souls. When we can only speak of our pain, poverty, anger, and shame, then it reveals what we believe about ourselves and the lives God has given us. We fall into the temptation of breaking the 9th and 10th commandments. We should acknowledge suffering when it comes, of course. But we shouldn't ignore and remain silent to how richly we've been blessed in Christ. For his Son's sake, God fills your mouth with words that praise the mercy poured out upon you in baptism, the absolution, and the Supper of His Son's body and blood. If you still have trouble, speak to your pastor. Call up a Christian friend. Take comfort when they tell you about Jesus. "Replenish my languishing soul, O Lord." Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 10:24-31 Fearing the Right One

"Fear is the mind killer." So the saying goes. Fear, placed in the wrong spot, destroys not just the mind but also the heart and soul. That's why Jesus directs our fear toward Himself. Don't fear the world, or death, or the devil, or your neighbor, or clowns; none of those can kill the soul. Instead we are to fear Him, as the One Who has the authority to cast body and soul into Hell. When we are rightly oriented toward God in our fear, then we also get this wonderful proclamation: "Do not fear!" Christ has not come to destroy us. We should fear, but also love and trust Him, because He's come so that we would have eternal life and be rescued from all the other things we are afraid of. *Lord, thank You for directing my fear to be placed in You. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Acts 14:8-23 Power or Weakness?

The contrast is stark – the crippled man is healed in a powerful show of God's power and mercy, and a few verses later Paul is stoned and dragged out of the city, left for dead. So is the life of faith one of power or weakness, of glorious manifestations or of patient suffering? The answer is yes. The Christian can be confident of the powerful working of God in him by the word and sacraments, that his sins are forgiven, and that God hears his prayers, perhaps even answering them with a powerful outstretched hand. But nevertheless "through much tribulation [we] enter into the kingdom of God". No matter what comes, as with Paul, the Lord Jesus is with you to uphold you and save you. *Lord Jesus, help me in times of trial, and in times of joy. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 125 Mount Zion Cannot Be Moved

The psalm may be interpreted thus; Mt. Zion is the holy Christian church in both Testaments. It is the people of God who are made righteous by hearing the promise of the Savior's sacrifice for their sin and believing it. On this holy mountain there is stability, strength, and steadfast love from God. His Word builds the walls. His Promises establish the palisades and gates that shut the enemies out. The scepter of wickedness is the devil's dominion of fear, sin, and death. He has no power on Mount Zion. His scepter is smashed and useless. Jesus reigns here. His scepter gives forgiveness, life, and salvation to His saints. He makes them righteous and upright in heart. *"Give peace to Your Israel, O Lord, and keep us in Your Son's kingdom." Amen.*

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