

5

PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 86:1-3, 4, 6, 15-16

Bow down Your ear, O Lord, / hear me;*
 You are my God; save Your servant who / trusts in You!
 Be merciful to / me, O Lord,*
 for I cry to You / all day long.
 Rejoice the soul of Your / servant,*
 for to You, O Lord, I lift / up my soul.
 Give ear, O Lord, / to my prayer;*
 and attend to the voice of my suppli- / cations.
 You, O Lord, are a God full of com- / passion,*
 oh, turn to me, and have mercy up- / on me!
 Give Your strength to Your / servant,*
 and save the son of Your / maidservant.

6

SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 119:116

"Uphold me according to Your promise, that I may live, and let me not be put to shame in my hope!"

7

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

8

PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church, and because she cannot continue in safety without Your help, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

9

PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10

SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK

In God, My Faithful God

TLH 526, LSB 745

Sigismund Weingartner



1. In God, my faithful God,
 I trust when dark my road;
 Tho' many woes o'ertake me,
 Yet He will not forsake me.
 His love it is doth send them
 And, when 'tis best, will end them.
2. My sins assail me sore,
 But I despair no more.
 I build on Christ, who loves me;
 From this Rock nothing moves me.
 To Him I all surrender,
 To Him, my soul's Defender.

3. If death my portion be,
 Then death is gain to me
 And Christ my Life forever,
 From whom death cannot sever.
 Come when it may,
 He'll shield me,
 To Him I wholly yield me.



"The Confidence in God Wrought by the Spirit"

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 September 13-19, 2026

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Confidence in God Wrought by the Spirit

The Lord gives us His Word so that we would be brought to faith, preserved against evil and wickedness, instructed in righteous living, guarded against false doctrine, and ultimately, so that we would be forgiven our sins and brought into everlasting life. This is the purpose of the scriptures. And He gives them not only to our minds and hearts, but also to our lips, so that we would speak these beautiful words to others, that many would rejoice, and that in the resurrection we would have many neighbors.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:24-34 – Contentment in Christ

Jesus instructs us to not be anxious about our daily needs. The word “anxious” in the original language of the New Testament is the same word for tombstone. Worry, which is idolatry, erects a tombstone in the human heart. Repent! But our confidence, wrought by the Spirit and anchored in the crucified and risen Christ, is in God alone. He created, redeemed, and sanctified us. Our heavenly Father cares for the birds of the air and the lilies of the field. How much more will He give us, the crown of His creation, to wear the baptismal robe of His righteousness and to eat and drink of His body and blood? *Heavenly Father, thank You for daily and richly providing all that we need to support this body and life. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Ps 119:113-120 – Our Shelter and Shield

Until the return of our Lord Jesus, God's people will always be surrounded by the double-minded and evildoers; those who hate God's Word, reject His laws and despise those who love His testimonies. For those who fear and love God, Yahweh alone is their shelter and shield. He will uphold and sustain His own, keeping them safe in the day of trouble. This He has promised to the psalmist and to you. This He has fulfilled in Jesus, the Word of God made flesh for you. Rejoice then and be glad, for the Lord does not lie and those who put their trust in Him will never be put to shame! *Help me, O Lord, to trust and cling to Your Words of life and promise all my days. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 5:25-6:10 – Sowing Good Things

You reap what you sow. This is wisdom that even the world knows, but it comes from the Lord. If we sow envy, conceit, wickedness; if we sow discontentment in the Lord's Word and promises; if we sow unbelief, then we will reap the same. What we put into the ground, or better yet, what we place into our hearts, minds, and consciences, will inevitably grow up and flourish. So we are encouraged to sow, plant, and cultivate the good things. These include faith, righteousness, sanctification, God's Word, and good works. In that we will see an abundance of the same grow up in our lives together, giving us much opportunity to do good, especially in the household of faith. *Lord, help me to sow Your Word and truth in my mind, heart, and conscience. Amen*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 6:4-7 – Constant Creed

The Creed is wonderful because we learn it by heart, say it together with joy, and can come back to any part at any time. This passage begins with the "Creed," of sorts, for the people of Israel. Far more than just a confession for church or devotions, however, the words of God from Moses are to be the constant food of conversation. Memorize God's Word, certainly; but also discuss it. Make it part of your vocabulary. It is to be a way of life, not simply a child's verse. For the Words of God are what truly give life, by His Spirit. *Lord, plant Your Word deeply in my heart, that it may bear much fruit. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:38-42 – One Thing's Needed

Christianity is not about what you can do for Jesus, but what Jesus does for you. Being the church is not skipping worship to rake leaves. It's being near Jesus to receive from Him in Word and Sacrament. I realize there's a lot to do. It's easy to become distracted with much serving, but one thing is necessary. Faith in Jesus goes to Jesus. He has promised to be found in Word and Sacrament, not as yet one more thing to worry about, but as the remedy to worry and anxiety. It's even enough to care for our neighbors after. *Lord, show to us what is necessary, that we may seek You where You have promised to be found and receive from You in joy. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Acts 8:26-39 – Always about Jesus

What is the primary topic of the scriptures? How you answer this will greatly affect how you read and apply God's Word. If the scriptures are chiefly about you and what you need to be doing, then all the texts will take on that reality. But if the scriptures are about someone else, if they are about the Lord's Work of redeeming us from sin and death and rescuing from the devil, especially in the person and work of Jesus, then our reading and application of them will reflect that. "About whom does the prophet say this?" "Jesus" says Phillip. And he's right. For as our Lord Himself reminds us: "You read the scriptures for you believe that in them you have life, and it is they that testify of me." *Lord, help me to always see Jesus in the scriptures. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 34 – True Christian Humility

The only way to truly bless the Lord (v.1) is to truly recognize that we are sinful, that He alone is good, and that we are only made perfect for the sake of Christ. This is true Christian humility: acknowledging the free gift of salvation in Christ to poor miserable sinners. Anything else is self-justification and therefore is a curse against God and His salvation for us. To seek the Lord is to know that, as Luther says, "Our ugliness is God's beauty, our blushing is God's glory, our shame is His dignity, our sin is the excellence of His grace" (AE 10:162). And it is only through this true humility, granted by God through faith, that the Holy Spirit can then enliven us to, "Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it." It is all and only the work of God in us for the sake of Christ. *Holy Spirit, be near to the brokenhearted and save the crushed in spirit. Amen.*

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