

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 Peter 1:19

“And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.”

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

TLH 343, LSB 395
Philipp Nicolai



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.



“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 29-February 4, 2023

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

We begin this week reflecting on the revealed glory of Christ at the Transfiguration. As we go through this week, we see how the glory of Christ is revealed even still today through the ministry of the Word and Sacraments given to us through the Church. And just like those in ages past, we rejoice when we see the glory of Christ. May your week be blessed by these reflections on the glory of Christ and may His glory be ever before your eyes!

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 17:1-9 – In Awe of the Strange

The Transfiguration is a truly unique occurrence in the ministry of Jesus. In that moment, Jesus' full divine glory was revealed as He was in the company of two icons of the Old Testament faith. Peter responds with the desire to stay there. Indeed, would that we all had such a desire to be in Jesus' divine presence! We are in the presence of Christ as we hold Him in our hands for the Lord's Supper and hear His Word proclaimed from the pulpit. May we have the same awe and desire for these gifts that we too would say, "Lord, it is good that we are here!" *Almighty God, grant me the eyes to see Your glorious presence and majesty as You come to be with Your people as we gather for worship in Your name. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 87 – They were Born in Her

Where were you born? Do you live near where you were born? Some of us remain near our places of birth while others are taken far away. Yet, there is another birth that is of more consequence: our new birth and life given in Baptism. We are born anew in the Church through the work of Christ in Holy Baptism. It is the Church that has been established by our Lord through the preaching of the Gospel and it is in the Church that the spring of the Gospel is given its rightful place. Let us rejoice that we get to dwell in Zion as God's faithful children. *Almighty God, I thank and praise You for the new birth given to me in baptism. Bless me that I might rejoice in all the gifts and blessings You have given me. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 2 Peter 1:16-21 – Carried by the Holy Spirit

This text is Peter's own reflection on His presence at the Transfiguration of Jesus. Notice that Peter doesn't tell people that they should be satisfied with his own eyewitness account. He points them to the confirmed prophecies found in Scripture. Truly, this is of great comfort to us who live so far removed from these events. We can trust the Scriptures as they have been handed to us by those who were "carried along by the Holy Spirit" to write the inspired Word of God. In this way, we receive the message of the Gospel similarly to those who have received the faith before us and those who will come after us. *Almighty God, You have given Your Word that it might shine light upon the darkness of the world. I thank You for revealing Your truth of the Gospel for my salvation. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:10, 11 – Dressed by Christ

What does the robe of Christ's righteousness look like? We see an example of this in worship with the white vestments worn by the pastors. But even those white robes are only a representation of the true glory of Christ that was revealed at the transfiguration. Imagine His clothes that shone as bright as lightning! That is what the righteousness of Christ looks like, and it is that which you are clothed with through faith. What joy this brings! We are made to be more finely dressed than someone on their wedding day. And this is because our God has His righteousness to spring up on earth through the righteousness of Christ given to us that we might then praise Him. *Almighty Lord, I thank and praise You for the righteousness and salvation You have given to me. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:22-32 – The Song of Simeon

The Song of Simeon here is likely familiar to you. We often sing these words after receiving the body and blood of Jesus in the Sacrament of the Altar. And we sing them for the same reason. God revealed His glory to Simeon as he held the Christ in his hands, and so Simeon is saying that he is prepared to pass from this life. In a similar way when we sing this, God has revealed His glory to us as we held the Christ in our hands and our sins were forgiven as we received Him. We too recognize that we are similarly prepared to pass from this life if it should please our God. Not because we welcome death for death's own sake, but because we are so comforted, complete, and sanctified. *Almighty God, You have made me to be Your own. Thank You for revealing Yourself to me through Your Word and Sacraments that I may know You all the more. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 4:5, 6 – All Eyes on Christ

Have you ever been in a room where all eyes were on someone else? There are some who can't tolerate this and will do whatever they can to get attention back on themselves. This is not the role of the Apostles or of any true servant of Christ. Those who are faithful servants of Christ want all attention to be on their master and to remain there. The focus is not and cannot be the glory or fame of the one speaking, but only the glory and fame of Christ are what matter. It is only Christ who can save, so who better to give our attention to than Him? *Almighty God, preserve Your Church from those who would proclaim themselves but instead give all Your servants the desire to proclaim only Christ and Him crucified for sinners like me. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 8 – The Heavens Proclaim His Glory

The glory of God is set on display every day. We rejoice in this only through faith. Though everyone perceives this glory and is without excuse, no one accepts this glory with God pleasing praise unless he trusts Christ's greater glory. This is why the argument of God's existence based on the beauty of the world often falls on deaf ears. Yet this does nothing to diminish the truth of God or the favor toward creation. We rejoice at being able to see the glorious works of God, but we rejoice all the more at His work done for us at the cross that we would be His own redeemed and blessed people. Thanks be to God! *Almighty God, Your glory truly fills the whole earth. Fill me with praises to You that I may rejoice in all You have done for me. Amen.*

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