

“The Repentance Wrought by the Spirit”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 25:16, 18, 1-2, 5, 15, 20

Turn Yourself to me, and have mer- / cy on me,*
 for I am desolate and af- / flicted.
 Look on my affliction / and my pain,*
 and forgive / all my sins.
 To You, O Lord, I lift / up my soul.*
 O my God, I trust in You; Let me not / be ashamed.
 You are the God of my sal- / vation;*
 on You I wait / all the day.
 My eyes are ever / toward the Lord,*
 for He shall pluck my feet out / of the net.
 Keep my soul, and de- / liver me;*
 let me not be ashamed, for I put my / trust in You.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK 1 Peter 2:25

“For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, the Protector of all that trust in You, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us Your mercy that, You being our Ruler and Guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

TLH 324, LSB 609
 Erdmann Neumeister



1. Jesus sinners doth receive;
 Oh, may all this saying ponder
 Who in sin's delusions live
 And from God and heaven wander!
 Here is hope for all who grieve--
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

2. We deserve but grief and shame,
 Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
 Pardon, peace, and life proclaim.
 Here their ills have perfect healing
 Who with humble hearts believe--
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

4. Come, ye sinners, one and all,
 Come, accept His invitation;
 Come, obey His gracious call,
 Come and take His free salvation!
 Firmly in these words believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

6. Oh, how blest it is to know:
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By Thy blood and bitter Passion:
 For these words I now believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

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.

THEME OF THE WEEK: **The Repentance Wrought by the Spirit**

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way” (Is. 53:6). Sheep are easily distracted. In their little sheep minds they’re convinced that the grass is better where the Shepherd is not leading them. So, they break away from the flock and wander. Instead of finding their hearts’ desire, they’re ensnared by brambles, starving, and surrounded wolves. When the sheep are at their most helpless, the Lord is strongest to save. To the lost, endangered, foolish, wandering sheep, He sends His Spirit to turn their hearts and minds away from transgression to the forgiving embrace of the Shepherd who carries them home.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 15:1-10 “I Found My Sheep that Was Lost!”**

The devil tells the conscience-stricken sinner that the Lord couldn’t possibly love him. He’s too weak to deserve His favor. He’s too covetous, lustful, angry, and lazy for God to have anything to do with him. The devil says the Lord loves the strong, loyal, and unwavering sheep. In them He finds joy. In you He finds displeasure. Jesus calls this a lie. His joy is not in the strong and sure, but in finding the lost. “And when He has found it, He lays it on His shoulders rejoicing.” He gathers His friends to make His joy their own. Heaven rejoices because you are found, not because you are perfect and strong. Heaven’s courts are filled with song because Jesus returns you to His flock with mercy and forgiveness. *Grant me Your joy, O Lord. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: **Psalm 119, third part (GIMEL v17-24) “Open My Eyes!”**

The Lord Himself opens eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to believe. Keep this truth close to your heart because the flesh chafes under God’s law. It recoils and tries to flee the Lord’s commandments. The flesh desires to be free to do whatever satisfies its passions. It calls wanton abandon ‘freedom’ even though it is nothing but the most abject slavery to corruption that leads to death. God be praised that He deals bountifully with you, giving His Spirit in baptism. The Spirit alone gives you a fervent desire to pursue what God finds pleasing. Sensing our flesh’s weakness, we must make David’s prayer our own. *I am a sojourner on the earth; hide not Your commandments from me! My soul is consumed with longing for Your rules at all times. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **1 Peter 5:6-11 “He Cares for You”**

The devil takes on the persona of the dealer of ‘satisfaction’ and ‘happiness’ in our lives. He’s a smooth-talking salesman with just the right thing to ease your pain and anxiety when you’re covetous, frustrated, and afraid. Do not be deceived. As a lion over prey, he seeks to devour you. In both times of testing and temptation the Lord says that He is the One who humbles and exults. In this world there is no lasting satisfaction or pleasure. So He sets your eyes on His Son’s cross where He bears His heart in atoning love. Therefore, cast your anxieties on Him, “because He cares for you.” Though you suffer for a little while, you will be restored, confirmed, strengthened, and established. *To You, O Lord, be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Micah 7:18-20 “He Delights in Steadfast Love”**

“Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression?” In our heart, the Lord has many contenders, gods that promise blessing if you follow their rules and give them sacrifices to earn their favor. But they do not, they cannot, pardon iniquity. Only the Lord shows this pardoning compassion rooted in unfathomable, steadfast love manifested in sending His only begotten Son to seek and save the lost through His sacrificial death and resurrection. Through Jesus our iniquities have been trodden underfoot. Our sins have been cast into the depths of the sea. The Lord’s delight in this love has made us His people and Himself our God. *Because You have pardoned my iniquity, O Lord, I am Yours and You are mine. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 15:11-32 “Fitting to Celebrate and be Glad”**

The younger son demands his inheritance, acting as if his father is already dead, and journeys to a country where he “squandered his property in reckless living.” This is sin. Transgressions renounce God, deny our place in His kingdom, and force ourselves into the fellowship of the ungodly. We deserve to be left to our own destructive devices. But see how the father waits on the road with eager expectation for his son’s return. His compassion and long-suffering love, eager to forgive the penitent sinner, is what your Father feels for you in Christ Jesus your Savior. Repent. Return to your Father and the inheritance promised in Baptism. You are found. *Grant me joy to celebrate with the heavenly host that I have been found in Christ Jesus. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Acts 9:1-18 “He Rose and Was Baptized”**

You are not so lost that you cannot be saved. Saul breathes threats and murder, and yet God chooses him to be both saved and an apostle to the gentiles. Jesus steps in the way of Saul’s murderous intent. In the pattern of Law and Gospel, Jesus afflicts Saul with blindness teaching the hard lesson about the spiritual blindness that afflicted his heart. Jesus humbles Saul to exult him. He sends a pastor to this feared persecutor, not rage at him with vindictive spite, but to give him the true sight of faith through baptism. Paul writes, “I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life.” *Save me according to Your mercy, O Lord. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalm 25 “Forgive All My Sins”**

David is bold in prayer. Instead of glossing over the fact that he has sinned, he sets all his guilt and iniquity before the Lord and then demands the Lord take it away! “For your name’s sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great.” Who does David think he is? Isn’t it up to God when to forgive and when to hold sinners guilty? The fact is that David believes something about God that many folks wouldn’t dare to hope. He believes that God is a Savior, that He promises to send a Redeemer, and that He wants to be worshipped as the Forgiver of sins and Restorer of life. Search the Scriptures and learn this joyful truth. God wants to be known as your Savior and the Savior of the whole world. In this faith, pray to Him boldly. *Forgive my sins, O Lord. Amen.*

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