



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 25:1-3a, 4-5, 21-22**

To You, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.\*  
 O my God, I trust in You; Let me not | be ashamed;  
 Let not my enemies triumph | over me.\*  
 Let no one who waits on You | be ashamed.  
 Show me Your | ways, O Lord;\*  
 teach | me Your paths.  
 For You are the God of my sal- | vation;\*  
 on You I wait | all the day.  
 Let integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me,\*  
 for I | wait for You.  
 Redeem Isra- | el, O God,\*  
 out of all their | troubles.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Zechariah 9:9**  
 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
 behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He,  
 humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK  
 Almighty God, heavenly Father, bestow on us Your grace that we may cast away the  
 works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal  
 life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility, that in the Last  
 Day when He will come again in His glorious Majesty to judge both the living and the  
 dead, we may then rise to the life immortal; through Him 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 **Savior of the Nations Come**  
 TLH 95, LSB 332  
 Martin Luther



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|---|---|
| <p>1. Savior of the nations, come,<br/>             Virgin's Son, make here Thy home!<br/>             Marvel now, O heaven and earth,<br/>             That the Lord chose such a birth.</p> | <p>6. Brightly doth Thy manger shine,<br/>             Glorious is its light divine.<br/>             Let not sin o'ercloud this light;<br/>             Ever be our faith thus bright.</p> |
| <p>3. Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child<br/>             Of the Virgin undefiled!<br/>             Though by all the world disowned,<br/>             Still to be in heaven enthroned.</p>     | <p>7. Praise to God the Father sing,<br/>             Praise to God the Son, our King,<br/>             Praise to God the Spirit be<br/>             Ever and eternally.</p>                |

**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 Lord Comes Even Now**

"Rejoice greatly" people of God, for the prophet Zechariah rightly proclaims, "your king is coming to you!" (Zech. 9:9). We rejoice in the advent of our Lord this week. Because we cannot go to Him, He comes to us. He comes humble, meek, and lowly to save! He comes even now in water and Word, bread and wine to forgive, renew and strengthen hearts and minds. He comes with nothing less than the very blessings of His kingdom; forgiveness, life and salvation. And on the Last Day, He will come again in glory and power to raise you and all the dead and give life to you and all believers in Christ. Rejoice, your King is coming you!

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 21:1-9 Your King Comes to You**

On this first Sunday of the Church Year, the life and ministry of our Lord comes to its climax as He rides into the holy city on Palm Sunday. Jesus is welcomed as king, but what kind of king? He rides on a donkey, not on a stallion or warhorse. He enters Jerusalem not to conquer with might or power (though He could), but to offer grace, mercy and peace to sinners estranged from God. Fear not daughter Zion, rejoice greatly! Your King comes to you again today. He comes not in power, nor by force, but humble, lowly, bowed down and full of grace and mercy. He knows all your grievous faults and ugly sins, and yet He still comes to you and for you in mercy to forgive and save. *Lord Jesus, thank You for coming lowly to save me from my sin. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: **Psalms 1 Blessed is The Man**

Advent is a holy season of devotion and prayer, hearing and meditating on the Word of God. It is a season of repentance and faith as we prepare to celebrate with joy our Lord's first coming even as we eagerly await with confidence His second. Delighting in the law of the Lord, we meditate on it daily, that it may lead us in the way of the righteousness, light and life. At the same time, we rejoice that our Lord Jesus is the One and Only Man, who fully delighted in and perfectly meditated on the Word of the Lord, day and night. He is the way of righteousness. Baptized into Christ, you are a good and righteous tree who bears Godly fruit in every season. *Lord Jesus, water me with Your Word that I may continue to grow and bear fruit in You. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 4:18-22 The Messiah Has Found You - The Festival of St. Andrew**

The story of St. Andrew begins in John 1 where he is brought to faith through the beautiful preaching of John the Baptist; "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (1:29). Andrew is known as the first "home missionary" because he introduced his brother Simon (Peter) to Jesus. In his excitement he told Simon, "We have found the Messiah" (Jn. 1:41). But in reality, it was the Messiah who had come for Andrew and found him. The Messiah has also found you, called you by the Gospel and enlightened you with His gifts! Set free from sin, darkness and death, we too happily point others to the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! *O Lamb of God, thank You for finding me, calling me and making me Yours. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Jeremiah 33:14-18 The Lord is our Righteousness**

The Word of the Lord that came to Jeremiah is a Word of promise, hope and future. Israel and Judah had been lead down the thorny and deadly path of idolatry and then exiled by their faithless and unrighteous kings. Even so, Yahweh never lost sight of His promise. He would raise up a "Righteous Branch" from the line of David who would be called "The Lord Is Our Righteousness" (Jer. 23:6). Sprouting up in the womb of a virgin, this "righteous Branch" came to take on our sin, death and damnation that He might bestow upon us His eternal righteousness, life, and salvation. Grafted into this Branch you are now called "The Lord is our righteousness" (Jer. 33:17). *Heavenly Father, thank You for keeping Your promise to raise up a righteous Branch. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 1:1-25 The Lord is Gracious**

Zechariah and Elizabeth, like Abraham and Sarah, Elkanah and Hannah, before them, were recipients of the Lord's gracious favor, who blessed them with a special child through extraordinary means. Elizabeth suffered the silent pain of being barren. Both she and Zechariah were years past the point of being able to bear and rear children. Nevertheless, God choose them to be the parents of the greatest prophet born of man (Matt. 11:11). He would be great before the Lord, preparing a people for His coming. Fittingly, John's name means "God has been gracious." Not only would John's birth bring joy and God's blessing to his parents, but to all who would receive the One whose path he would prepare. *O Lord, thank You for Your underserved grace in Jesus. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Colossians 1:12-23 Purchased by Jesus' Priceless Blood**

The beautiful words of St. Paul here in Colossians are words of transaction. God the Father has purchased you, a lost and condemned person, redeemed you from sin, death and everlasting condemnation, reconciled you to Himself, and transferred you from the domain of darkness to the kingdom of His Son. All this He has done, not with gold or silver, but by the costly and priceless blood of His Son. In Jesus, you are now God's holy, blameless and beloved child given to share in the inheritance of the saints; a gift and treasure beyond comparing! *Lord Jesus Christ, thank You for coming down and taking on flesh to pay the all-sufficient cost of my redemption. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalms 143 God's Covenant Love in Christ Never Ends**

What do you do when you're in danger or trouble? The psalmist teaches us to call upon the Lord in the day of trouble! David pleads for mercy, for the Lord to rescue him from his enemies. He appeals to the Lord's righteousness, faithfulness and covenant love. The Lord is faithful. He always keeps His covenant. His mercy and love endure forever! He may not rescue us from every difficulty or trial in life, but He will never forget the covenant He has made with us in Holy Baptism. Christ Jesus faced and defeated all our enemies (sin, death, and devil) for us! Therefore, come what may, our lives are hidden in Christ (Col. 3:3), safe and secure in Him always. *Heavenly Father, thank You for Your covenant love in Christ that knows no end. Amen.*

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