

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Revelation 12:11; Psalm 33:1, 13-15

They overcame him by the blood / of the Lamb\*  
and by the word of their testi- / mony,  
They did not / love their lives\*  
even / unto death.  
Rejoice in the Lord, O you / righteous!\*  
For praise from the upright is / beautiful.  
The Lord looks from / heaven;\*  
He sees all the / sons of men.  
From the place of His dwell- / ing He looks\*  
on all the inhabitants / of the earth;  
He fashions their hearts indi- / vidually;\*  
He considers / all their works.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Colossians 1:13-14

“He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in Whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O almighty God, who has knit together Your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, grant us grace so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those unspeakable joys that you have prepared for those who unfeignedly love You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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  
**Christ, Thou Art the Sure Foundation**

TLH 466  
Author Unknown



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| <p>1. Christ, Thou art the sure Foundation,<br/>Thou the Head and Corner-stone;<br/>Chosen of the Lord and precious<br/>Binding all the Church in one;<br/>Thou Thy Zion's Help forever<br/>And her Confidence alone.</p>  | <p>3. Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants<br/>What they ask of Thee to gain,<br/>What they gain from Thee forever<br/>With the blessed to retain,<br/>And hereafter in Thy glory,<br/>Evermore with Thee to reign.</p> |
| <p>2. To this temple, where we call Thee,<br/>Come, O Lord of hosts, today;<br/>With Thy wonted loving-kindness<br/>Hear Thy servants as they pray<br/>And Thy fullest benediction<br/>Shed within these walls always.</p> | <p>4. Praise and honor to the Father,<br/>Praise and honor to the Son,<br/>Praise and honor to the Spirit,<br/>Ever Three and ever One,<br/>One in might and one in glory,<br/>While unending ages run.</p>           |



“The Blessedness of the Saints of God”

**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 November 6-12, 2022

### THEME OF THE WEEK: The Blessedness of the Saints of God

Who are the saints? They are the 144,000 whose robes have washed white in the blood of the Lamb. The saints have been sealed and marked as belonging to God. These saints who belong to God are His “blessed ones” or receivers of His gifts. God guards and protects them, like the mountains which surround Jerusalem, against the attacks and deceptions of the evil one. God has used His arm to guard and protect His saints. He sent His Son, to crush the head of the enemy upon the cross. In Holy Baptism we are joined to Jesus' death and resurrection. In Jesus we also “share in the inheritance of the saints in light.” When Jesus comes again, He will awaken us from our slumber of death to sing His praises in the new heaven and new earth.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:1-12 — Beatitudes

To be blessed is to be the recipient of Divine favor. To be blessed is also to be one who receives God's gifts. Everyone listed in Matthew 5 will have joy, and so much more. They are in Christ, Who gave the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai, and kept it in His flesh. He is the One calling them, calling you, calling all who have faith His “blessed ones.” He is the One who does the calling. He has placed His name upon you. He is the One who gives you and the saints His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

*Dear Jesus, keep us as Your blessed ones. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 125 — Peace be upon Israel

The psalmist ends Psalm 125 with: “Peace be upon Israel!” This peace comes only from the true God who surrounds us and protects us like the mountains around Jerusalem. In this psalm we are praying for God to guard and protect our souls. We pray for God “to deliver us from evil.” He answers by gathering us, and all the saints, together to be where He has promised to be, in the Divine Service. We are kept secure and praise His name.

*Lord, deliver us from evil. Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: Revelation 7:2-17 — Rejoice with the 144,000

The 144,000 are redeemed because they have been sealed. Sealing marks one as being owned by another. Who did the sealing? Christ! They, you, all the saints belong to Him. We bear His mark. His seal was marked upon you as a cross in Holy Baptism. This is why they are in pure white robes symbolizing Christ's righteousness. Victory and salvation is theirs because of the Lamb. So they praise God with palm branches because their time of wandering in this wilderness is over. They are in the Promised Land.

*Dear Lord, help us rejoice in the victory that belongs to You. Amen.*

WED

### SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 51:9-16 — Isaiah's Prayer and Answer

Isaiah prays in verses 9-11 for the “arm of God” to act on behalf of the people. It is a powerful arm that has achieved great things “in days of old.” Will God use the same arm to save His people from captivity? God answers in verses 12-16. He is the One who provides comfort. He puts His Word in their mouths to proclaim what He has done in His “establishing . . . laying . . . and saying.” His saving work reaches its climax in a new heavens and new earth where we, all the saints, rejoice that all has been restored and sins forgiven.

*Lord, protect us with Your arm. Amen.*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 9:18-26 — Healing by Word and Touch

A believing man's daughter has just died. All Jesus needs to do is touch her. A woman with a flow of blood for twelve years, shows up on the scene. In faith she touches Jesus garment. The woman is healed by her faith. The daughter is healed with His Word and touch. She is awakened from slumber of death, back to life. In the same way we awake every morning from our slumber, Jesus will awaken us from the sleep of death, because He has declared His Cross-dying, Easter-rising, sin-forgiving Word to us.

*Lord, we believe, help our unbelief. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: Colossians 1:9-14 — In Christ we have Redemption

We have a “share in the inheritance of the saints in light” because God's kingdom has come to us. God's kingdom is one of love and sacrifice. God made you a part of His kingdom when He delivered you by Jesus' blood shed upon Calvary. Upon the cross, the head of the evil one was crushed. This is God's love for His saints in action. It is a love placed upon you in Baptism where you are joined with Christ “in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

*Lord, preserve us with Your saints in Your kingdom. Amen.*

SAT

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 18:1-19 — Jesus Delivers us from our True Enemy

Who are our enemies that the Lord is saving us from? In David's case, was it Saul? No. As Paul explains in Ephesians 6, our struggle is not against flesh and blood. Rather, our struggle is a spiritual one. Our enemies are the evil one and his minions, the powers of darkness. These enemies who conspired against David, all the saints, also conspired against Jesus. We look to Him for help. He is the One who came down in the incarnation. He suffered, died, and was assailed for us upon the cross. In Him we are delivered.

*Lord, draw us to You in Your death. Amen.*

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