

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 **Revelation 12:11**

"The saints have conquered Satan by the blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death."

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



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| <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
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“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 29-October 5, 2019

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

God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose. The whole creation is put at the service of God's saints. That includes the Holy Angels, who guard us in every way. They are the Lord's messengers. In ancient days they announced His mighty acts; now, they guard us so that the Word of God may be our primary delight, in which we find salvation, guidance, correction, and life.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 18:1-11—St. Michael & All Angels

God's angels are a fearsome host—battle-ready. This is what "Sabaoth" means: armies. The angels always see the face of the Father. They are perfectly fixed on their commander, the Lord of Sabaoth. What a surprise it is, then, to hear from Jesus that they have another assignment: to guard the children of God. They are assigned, it would seem, to us. (This is the origin of the notion of "guardian angels.") Everything in our Father's Kingdom now serves for our good because Christ has redeemed us. Even His elite warriors serve as our honor guard. *Lord, fix my eyes also on Your Kingdom and Your will. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:113-120 (SAMEKH)—Sincerity of Law and Gospel

The Word of God is to be distinguished rightly, because it speaks Law and Gospel. But it is not a double-minded Word. God's Law is not evil and His Gospel good, nor does God give the Law with the purpose of sending us to hell. Even hell itself was never prepared for us (Mt 25:41). God corrects us and cuts off all other routes to self-righteousness so that our righteousness may be found in Christ. In such a light, David sees the sincerity of these commandments in contrast to the duplicity of the sinful heart. *Lord, hold me up in the sincerity of Your commands and the certainty of Your promises. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 5:25-6:10—The Burdens of Restoration

We must not grow weary of doing good, especially to those in our own household: the ones we grow tired of first, the last ones we want to talk to about their sins. The Lord commands just this, that we bear one another's burdens. There is no greater burden than trying to work with other Christians to try and help a brother entangled in sin. We are tempted to go along to get along, or maybe to lose all gentleness. But the work of the Spirit—for us and for others—is always the work of restoration. *Lord, give patience and endurance to Your Church, and take not Your Spirit from us. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 6:4-9—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 Needful

Some churches replace Sunday services with community service projects. People also sometimes insist that God can be worshipped as well outside of church as in it (so they don't come). Today's reading responds to both. Good works of service to the neighbor are excellent. Likewise, love toward the neighbor glorifies God, and happens in our daily lives. But when Christ is present—when His Word is being heard and His Sacrament distributed—good works come second. Christ's gracious Word is the one thing needful. Nothing comes before it. *Lord, give me delight in Your Word above all else. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Acts 8:26-39—Nothing Prevents It

The Gospel (good news) about Jesus is the heart and point of the Scriptures, including the marvelous chapter of Isaiah the Ethiopian eunuch was reading. But see what conclusion arises out of believing and hearing such news: Baptism. It is obvious to this eunuch. If the promises of Christ are so grand, what can prevent it? "Nothing" is the answer. Let it be so with us. The obvious conclusion of hearing God's Word is that we believe it, that we gladly receive it and all the gifts that it promises also. *Lord, Your gifts and promises in Christ are boundless. Guide me into your Word anew each day. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 34—Kept in the Lord's Message

"The Angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them." We began the week with angels on our minds, guarding us. In the end, we must remember what the word "angel" means: messenger. The Word of the Lord is the primary concern of the angels; may it also be with us. They are the Lord's servants most of all so that the Word of Christ may be guided into our ears and hearts. Where His Word is despised, there is only desolation; where His Word reigns, we are kept safe, through many afflictions and enemies. *Lord, redeem my life and fill it with Your Word and Your praise. Amen.*

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