

“The Righteousness Born of Baptismal Grace”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 28:8-9, 1-2, 7**

The Lord / is their strength,*
 and He is the saving refuge of His a- / nointed.
 Save Your people, and bless Your in- / heritance;*
 shepherd them also, and bear them up for- / ever.
 To You I will cry, O / Lord my Rock:*
 do not be si- / lent to me,
 lest, if You are si- / lent to me,*
 I become like those who go down / to the pit.
 Hear the voice of my supplications when I / cry to You,*
 when I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctu- / ary.
 The Lord is my strength / and my shield:*
 my heart trusted in Him, and / I am helped.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 119:41-42**

“Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord, Your salvation according to Your promise; then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me, for I trust in Your word.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord of all power and might, the Author and Giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
All Mankind Fell in Adam’s Fall

TLH 369, LSB 562
 Lazarus Spengler



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| <p>1. All mankind fell in Adam's fall,
 One common sin infects them all;
 From sire to son the bane descends,
 And over all the curse impends.</p> <p>2. Through all man's powers corruption creeps
 And him in dreadful bondage keeps:
 In guilt he draws his infant breath
 And reaps its fruits of woe and death.</p> | <p>5. As by one man all mankind fell
 And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
 So by one Man, who took our place,
 We all received the gift of grace.</p> <p>6. We thank Thee, Christ; new life is ours,
 New light, new hope, new strength, new pow-
 ers: May grace our every way attend
 Until we reach our journey's end!</p> |
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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 Righteousness Born of Baptismal Grace

This week, we will reflect upon what it means to be righteous in God's sight and how we as human beings are able to be righteous. It is not something we earn or attain, but something we are given. We become righteous through the work and grace of Jesus Christ. This new life of righteousness necessarily reorients us in relation to God and His Law, driving us to desire to serve Him even more faithfully as we continue to grow in righteousness before Him. May the Lord bless you this week as you are in His Word!

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:20-26 A Crushing Burden

"This is the Gospel of the Lord." It is important to remember that our Lord said these very things. These weren't just for the "evil" scribes and pharisees. They're for us. Jesus expands the requirements of the Law to include the mind and heart. This righteousness is something no one can hope to obtain. And that's just the point – righteousness is not something for us to create or earn. It comes to us only through our Lord Jesus Christ Himself for HE is the righteousness of God. Our righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and pharisees only because we are in Christ and His righteousness is ours. *O Lord, keep me in Your word and in Your righteousness through faith that I may be counted as righteous on the Last Day. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Ps 119, sixth part (WAW v41-48) – God's Mercy to His People

Yesterday we had Law in the New Testament and now we have Gospel in the Old Testament! This helps us see the true depth of God's Word. God's Law and Gospel are everywhere in Scripture. The language of this portion of the Psalm are statements of faith. They are not idle hopes or dreams. It is certain that God will do what He is asked in this Psalm. In the same way, we pray to God knowing that out of His love and goodness, He will give us what is necessary. His steadfast love never departs from us. He continually comes to us in His Word. All this He does out of divine, fatherly love for us. It is important for us to remember that we approach God with confidence when we pray. *O Lord, be with me, Your servant. Grant me to always trust in You above all else. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:3-11 – It's All Coming Together

This text serves as the turning point in our week. This brings together what we saw on Sunday and Monday. How is it that Jesus can expand the Law and yet we can be righteous? How and why can we approach God in confidence knowing that He will hear and answer our prayers? It's all here in Romans 6. These things are true because of the new, righteous life that is ours in Baptism. Through the waters of Holy Baptism we are made His new people, righteous, and clean. This is what He does for us. It isn't something that we earn, but something that He does because he loves us. *O Lord, thank You for calling me to be Your child and making me Your new creation through Baptism. Keep me in this faith by Your grace. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20:1-17 – We Get to Serve

It is important that we read this text right after our text from yesterday. Our world changes through baptism. Through the new life that is ours in Christ, we are given new eyes with which to see the Law. No longer are the 10 commandments an insurmountable mountain. Now, they are the very guides for living out this faith and new life in service to Christ and our neighbor. We do not hate the Law. Like the Psalmist, we rejoice in God's Law. *O Lord, grant me the eyes to see and the ears to hear Your true Word and guidance that I can live before You in Your kingdom without end. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 19:16-30 – So, You Want to be Perfect?

Sell everything and come, follow me. What a wonderful invitation from Jesus. Many of us today as modern Christians are convinced that we would never fail our Lord in this way and we would be sure to go when invited. Yet there were many who saw Jesus and heard Him teach who did not follow Him. How can we hope to be faithful? How can we be perfect? Only through faith in Him. Jesus not only calls us to follow Him, but He gives us the faith to do so through the work of the Holy Spirit. So let us faithfully follow Jesus for He is the source of all our good. *O Lord, You are the living source of all the blessings in my life. Give me the eyes to see the blessings You have given and joy in all that You have done and continue to do for me. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 2:4-10 – Christ's Riches, Not Ours

These words are likely familiar to many readers. Lutherans often will turn to them as the basis for our understanding of justification as something God does, not us. But there is more in the text. Paul speaks of God's mercy in the analogy of riches. In this way of thinking, God is the only truly wealthy being. All goodness, righteousness, and goodness are His. And He willingly shares this with us. He rejoices to bless His people, calling us to faith in Christ Jesus and making us His own through baptism and making us heirs of His kingdom of righteousness. *O Lord, all good that I have comes from You. You have blessed me immensely thus far in my life and I ask that You would give me the eyes to see Your goodness in my own life. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 114 – Name Above All Names

We conclude this week with a wonderful Psalm reminding us of the glory of God. He grants new life, righteousness, and holiness to all of His people because these qualities are His. Because of His mercy and goodness, He is worthy of praise. This is in addition to His glory as creator of the universe. He has indeed raised up a horn for His people, the message of the Gospel through which He calls the world back to Himself. It is through the Gospel that He has called us and made us His own people. Thanks be to God! *O Lord, You are worthy of all praise. It is through Your goodness that You have made me new in You. Be with me and bless me that I may remain steadfast in You and Your glory. Amen.*

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