# 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.

### SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Micah 7:18-19

'He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us, and will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea."

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

### PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

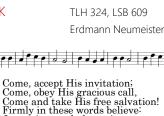
O God, the Protector of all that trust in You, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us Your mercy that, You being our Ruler and Guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

# PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

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

- 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.

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.

Jesus sinners doth receive.



# Around the Word Devotions + June 16-22, 2024

# "The Repentance Wrought by the Spirit"

#### BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holv Spirit.

# 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.

# 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.

# 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 June 16-22, 2024

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

God's great gift to you is repentance and faith in Jesus, His Son. This new life of faith is borne in you of water and the Spirit. How easy it is to be lulled into sleep, though, by the singing of the devil. His words are always crafted to sound like sweet music - but the rest which they promise is the sleep of death. Resist the devil and his sweet-sounding-yet-deadly words. They are always lies and always death. Delight, rather, in the Word of the Lord. His Word delivers you from death by bringing you into the Light, Who is Jesus. Daily return to His Word.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Luke 15:1-10 "Sought and Found"

Lost. It makes for an engaging TV series, doesn't it? Lost ones trying anything possible to not be lost. Except with sin, lost aren't trying to get found; they're running further into the darkness. It is only because of the searching woman that the coin is found, or the seeking shepherd or the finding father that sheep or sons are found. Finder-of-the-Lost, Jesus, seeks and saves, still calling out in His Word, daily calling us out of sin and into the paths of righteousness. *"Lord Jesus, You have graciously found and saved me; may I ever walk as Your own sought-and-found child." Amen.* 

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119, third part (GIMEL v17-24)

"Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law." Consider this most wondrous thing: That Jesus is that Word made flesh, the cornerstone, yet rejected. Rejected by His own and forsaken by the Father - for us and our salvation. What a wondrous thing this is! We are the ones who should have been rejected and forsaken by the Father because of sin. Yet the Spirit of God opens our eyes to this wondrous Truth: that in Jesus we are not rejected or forsaken, but called God's own. "Thanks be to You, O Lord, for You have done marvelous things!" Amen.

ΓUE

#### SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 5:6-11 "Planted Firmly in Christ"

Fellow believer, your brother Paul has clear instruction for your life as Christ's redeemed: Resist the devil. Your life as a Christian is not merely a life of believing something - it is the new life of actively walking in that faith, in that newness of life, of no longer walking in the works of darkness. Resist the devil, Paul instructs; literally, stand against him by being firmly planted in Jesus. In Jesus you are safe from the slow-but-steady pushing, pressing, and advancing of the devil. In Jesus you cannot be moved. *"Lord Jesus, plant me firmly in You and, by Your Spirit, give me strength each day to resist the devil." Amen.*  WED

SCRIPTURE: Micah 7:18-20 "Who is Like You, O God?"

The name Micah (and Michael) is a name that asks a question: "Who is like [You] God?" (It shows up in v. 18 of our reading.) Some characteristics of God might be claimed by false gods... but forgiving sins? ...Freely, by the blood of His own Son? That is true of the only true God, the maker of heaven and earth. What other god has compassion on His people because he himself has paid the price of that sin? Who is like You, O God? The beautiful answer is this: none, not one. *"You alone, Lord, have forgiven us and set us free. There is none like You! Thanks be to You, O Lord." Amen.* 

# THU

# SCRIPTURE: Luke 15:11-32 "Brought to the Feast"

A father finds his son while he was yet a long way off. He welcomes him home and feasts with him. The other son, presumably much closer to home, is also a long way off. The father goes out and finds him, too. He is not content to leave any lost to darkness. So it is with our Father. He gives His own Son over to the darkness to find us and bring us back to Himself. He sets a Table and rejoices with us in feasting. *"Heavenly Father, daily gladden our hearts with the good news of salvation by Your seeking-and-finding Son, Jesus." Amen.* 

## FR

#### SCRIPTURE: Acts 9:1-18 "Born Again to New Life"

Saul was tormenting, hounding, and persecuting Jesus unto death. By persecuting Jesus' people, he was doing it to Jesus Himself - and Jesus graciously brought him to repentance and conversion. The Lord graciously gave Saul the gift of repentance and new life by the Lord and Giver of Life, the Holy Spirit baptizing him and giving him new birth as Paul. Paul's conversion to a life of righteousness in Jesus is the same gift that Jesus has given you and all who are baptized: you, too, are delivered from dead works to serve the living God. "Lord Jesus, grant that I may daily die to sin and serve You in righteousness." Amen.

# SA

## SCRIPTURE: Psalm 25 "According to Your Mercy"

Remember not, yet remember! Such is David's prayer. He prays that the Lord would not remember the sins of his youth... but rather that He would remember him according to His mercy. Jesus is the in-the-flesh mercy of God. Consider the beauty of David's prayer and confession and make it your own: "Remember me according to Jesus! Do not remember me according to my sin!" And consider yourself according to Jesus, not according to your sin, that you may be instructed (and walk) in what is good, right, and holy. "Guard my soul and deliver me, O God, and guard me in the Way of everlasting life, even Jesus Christ." Amen.

Around the Word Devotions are produced by Around the Word Journal. Visit **www.whatdoesthismean.org** to sign up for these free devotions. These devotions are free for individual and family use. Questions? Please email around theword devotions@gmail.com. Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Thank you to **sanctus.org** and **lutheran-hymnal.com** for the Collects and Hymns. This week's author is **Pastor Hopfensperger**. He and Kirsten are blessed with four children. Andrew (and wife Christal), Jacob, Rebekah, and Leah. He serves Peace Lutheran Church in Sandusky, Michigan. (www.peacelutheransandusky.com)