



“The Sanctification Wrought by the Spirit”

**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 27:1, 7, 9, 11-12, 14**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry / with my voice!\*  
 Have mercy also upon me, and / answer me.  
 You have / been my help;\*  
 do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my sal- / vation.  
 The Lord is my light and my sal- / vation;\*  
 whom / shall I fear?  
 Teach me Your / way, O Lord,\*  
 and lead me in a / smooth path.  
 Do not deliver me to the will of my adver- / saries;\*  
 for false witnesses have risen a- / gainst me.  
 Wait on the Lord; be of good / courage,\*  
 and He shall streng- / then your heart.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Psalm 119:40 NKJV**  
 “Behold, I long for Your precepts; Revive me in Your righteousness.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK  
 O God, who has prepared for those that love You such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love toward You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

**9** PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

**10** SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK **We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost**  
 TLH 231, LSB 768  
 Martin Luther



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. We now implore the Holy Ghost<br/>             For the true faith, which we need<br/>             the most,<br/>             That in our last moments He may<br/>             befriend us<br/>             And, as homeward we journey,<br/>             attend us.<br/>             Lord, have mercy!</p> | <p>4. Thou highest Comfort in every need, Grant<br/>             that neither shame nor death<br/>             we heed,<br/>             That e'en then our courage may never fail us<br/>             When the Foe shall accuse and<br/>             assail us.<br/>             Lord, have mercy!</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.

# Around the Word Devotions + the week of June 30-July 6, 2024

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

The word creates and sustains faith, and that faith is bound to bring forth fruits. This is the common thread throughout this week. Confronted with God's word which sustains faith, the Christian confesses his sins (Sunday, Monday, Wednesday), loves others (Tuesday), takes up his cross (Thursday), proclaims the gospel (Friday), and has joy in Christ's gifts (Saturday).

Pay attention this week to the gifts Christ gives us and how the Christian delights in those gifts.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Luke 5:1-11 Jesus Calls Sinners

"Depart from me, for I am a sinful man O Lord!" These words might be the saddest words in the scriptures. We understand them though too, don't we? We would rather make a go of it ourselves, on our own terms, even our own bad terms rather than accept help, to be found out, to be confronted with our sins. We should rather say "COME to me, for I am a sinful man O Lord!" and that is exactly what Jesus does. He comforts Peter and us – "Don't be afraid". Do not be afraid of your sin, for I am putting it away. Do not be afraid of me, for I am mercy incarnate. Do not be afraid of your future, for I will hold you in the palm of My hand. *Lord Jesus, have mercy on my sin and come to me always in Your love. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119, fifth part (HE v33-40) Source of Life

The psalmist asks the Lord to grant him such steadfastness that he would walk in the way of God's commandments and testimonies and that he would turn away from vanity and embrace understanding. What is the source for such steadfastness? Is it a more accurate understanding of the Lord's expectations? No. Rather, it is here at the end of the reading "Behold, I long for Your precepts; uphold me in Your righteousness. Uphold me in YOUR righteousness. The righteousness of God is granted to faith, and from this flows all manner of good works. *Lord Jesus, You grant me Your righteousness. Instill in me, as the psalmist, such faith toward You that I would live Your divine life. Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 3:8-15 The Fruits of Faith

St. Peter reminds his hearers that they are called to inherit a blessing from the Lord - His righteousness, His kingdom, the new creation, all that which Christ has secured by His death and resurrection. The result of this hope? Peter says it is being likeminded with your brother Christians in compassion, love, tenderness, and humility (also translated as courtesy). These are your callings dear Christian. Where there is gratitude for what the Lord has done, there is also the love which Christians have for one another. Is that love perfect? Certainly not. But we pray that the faith which God has granted us would result in love for our neighbor more and more, all to the glory of God. *Lord Jesus, You love us. Grant that we would love each other. Amen.*

WED

### SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 16:14-21 Your Inheritance

We put our trust in so many worthless things. The things which we think will bring us peace, security and happiness are nothing more than distractions at best, or at worst utter idolatry. When the Lord is now gathering His Church together by the preaching of the Gospel, many are forced to say "surely our fathers have inherited lies, worthless and unprofitable things" (vs. 19). God be praised for it. What in your life is worthless and unprofitable to your spiritual life? Turn from these things and know that Christ Jesus is Lord and that He is gracious and merciful, and that His righteousness is enough for you. *Lord Jesus, take away from me those things in which I trust, and have me trust in You alone. Amen.*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:13-26 The Way of the Cross

The way of the disciple is the way of the cross. That is the Lord's promise to us. Now, that sounds uninviting to our flesh. We don't want to suffer for the sake of the gospel. We don't want others to speak against us. We don't want the devils always hounding us because of our confession of Jesus, that perhaps we too should lose our life because of our faith. But listen to Jesus's promise, "whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." In Jesus there is life. In His cross there is life. In confessing Jesus there is life. Death is not the end for the Christian, but a new beginning. Jesus is risen, and we too shall arise to glory. *Jesus, keep me steadfast in faith, that I would take up my cross and follow You. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 2:4-10 The Church Proclaims

God has made us into a holy priesthood, a holy nation, a people after His own creation who are special and loved by Him. This is the Church of God. The Church is all those who trust in Christ's righteousness for their salvation, who are baptized into His precious name, who long for the consummation of the kingdom. This Church is also called by God to do something in the meantime, as we await that consummation: "To proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness and into His marvelous light." (vs. 9). The Church preaches and proclaims the gospel that God would continue to call sinners like us to Himself. *Lord Jesus, help me to call others to fellowship with You, by the forgiveness of their sins. Amen.*

SAT

### SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:39-56 The Visitation

This passage simply overflows with joy! Nobody involved here can be silent as to the wonder that is happening. Mary goes with haste to share the good news, John in the womb of his mother leaps for joy, Elizabeth extols the mother of her Lord, and Mary herself sings her Magnificat. And why? Because the Lord God is become flesh. God has visited His people and will redeem them from sin, death, and the devil. There is no room for silence! There is only hastening, leaping, singing, praising from these and from all Christian hearts. God has come for us. Let no heart or tongue be silent, for God is now one of us! *Lord Jesus, let the joy of the Visitation always be in my heart, even as it was for Mary, Elizabeth, and John. Amen.*

To support the work of these devotions please visit [www.whatdoesthismean.org/support](http://www.whatdoesthismean.org/support)

Around the Word Devotions are produced by Around the Word Journal. Visit [www.whatdoesthismean.org](http://www.whatdoesthismean.org) to sign up for these free devotions. These devotions are free for individual and family use. Questions? Please email [aroundtheworddevotions@gmail.com](mailto:aroundtheworddevotions@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](http://sanctus.org) and [lutheran-hymnal.com](http://lutheran-hymnal.com) for the Collects and Hymns. This week's author is **Pastor Brandon Ross**. He and his wife Mackenzie have seven children. He is pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Johnstown, Colorado ([www.faithjohnstown.org](http://www.faithjohnstown.org)).