

5

**PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 46:7, 2, 4-6, 10**

The Lord of hosts is / with us;\*  
the God of Jacob is our / refuge.  
Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth / be removed,\*  
and though the mountains be carried into the midst / of the sea.  
There is a river whose streams shall make glad the ci- / ty of God,\*  
the holy place of the tabernacle of the / Most High.  
God is in the midst of her, she shall / not be moved;\*  
God shall help her, just at the / break of dawn.  
The nations raged, the king- / doms were moved;\*  
He uttered His voice, the earth / melted.  
Be still, and know that / I am God;\*  
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted / in the earth!

6

**SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Romans 3:28**

“For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.”

7

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

8

**PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

O Lord God, heavenly Father, pour out, we implore You, Your Holy Spirit upon Your faithful people, keep them steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all enemies of Your Word, and bestow upon Christ's Church Militant Your saving peace; through the same 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  
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

TLH 262, LSB 656  
Martin Luther



1. A mighty Fortress is our God,  
A trusty Shield and Weapon;  
He helps us free from every need  
That hath us now o'ertaken.  
The old evil Foe  
Now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might  
Are his dread arms in fight;  
On Earth is not his equal.

3. Though devils all the world should fill,  
All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill,  
They shall not overpower us.

This world's prince may still  
Scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none,  
He's judged; the deed is done;  
One little word can fell him.

4. The Word they still shall let remain  
Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain  
With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life,  
Goods, fame, child and wife,  
Let these all be gone,  
They yet have nothing won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.



“The Reformation of the Church of Christ”

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 Reformation of the Church of Christ**

On the night of His betrayal, Jesus prayed that we, His people, would be one even as He and the Father are one. He also prayed that we would be sanctified in the truth; God's Word is truth. (John 17:11, 17) While we ought to seek unity in the Church, we must never sacrifice the truth of the Word to achieve that unity. We must especially guard the first and chief article of our faith, that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised for our justification, and that we are justified freely not by our works but by faith alone. This is the truth that we boldly proclaim as heirs of the Reformation. This is the truth that sets us free as Jesus' disciples. This is the truth that binds us together as one Body in Christ.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: **Revelation 14:6, 7 – The Gospel Is for All**

There are some who think that the Festival of the Reformation is little more than a celebration of German heritage, but the eternal Gospel of Jesus Christ crucified is not just for Germans, Europeans, or Americans. God desires all people to be saved, and therefore He sends preachers to proclaim to all who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified by His grace as a gift. Truly Jesus wills that His Church go and make disciples of all nations. *We praise You, O God, for preserving Your eternal Gospel and spreading it to all who dwell on earth. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: **John 15:17-21 – Love One Another**

Jesus warns us that the world hates the Gospel and the One whom the Gospel proclaims, and that means that the world hates us who believe in the Gospel too. As we Christians face the world's hatred for Jesus' sake day in and day out, it is easy to grow bitter, hardened and cynical—even toward each other. But Jesus commands that we love one another, even as He has loved us and laid down His life for us. The world may hate us like it hates Jesus, but we will continue to love, for Christ has loved us first. *Lord Jesus Christ, grant us Your Spirit that we may love one another according to Your commandment. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: **2 Chronicles 29:12-19 – Cleansed and Renewed**

The temple of the Lord had been desecrated by King Ahaz, but when his son Hezekiah became king, he sent the priests and Levites to reopen and reconsecrate the temple by getting rid of all that was unclean in it. The Apostle Paul writes that our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit within us. Through daily contrition and repentance, we cleanse the temple of our heart, casting out the sins that defiles us. Through the Means of Grace Christ purifies and renews us to live as His holy people. *Gracious Lord, grant us true repentance for our sins and confident faith that we are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: **Galatians 2:16-21 – Live by Faith**

"A person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ." This is true not only when we first come to believe in Jesus but also as we remain in the faith. If we who are justified seek our righteousness anywhere else but in Christ, then we testify that Christ is a "servant of sin," that is, that He doesn't fully justify us. Is this true? Certainly not! The life we now live in the flesh we live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved us and gave Himself for us. *Dear Lord, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we would seek our righteousness nowhere else but in You. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 11:12-15 – Taking the Kingdom by Force**

It seems so strange that Jesus would say that the violent take the Kingdom of Heaven by force! But the only way we are able to enter the kingdom of heaven is by holding fast to the forgiveness of sins proclaimed in the Gospel. Saving faith seizes God's promise of salvation even in the face of the Law's condemnation. Such faith is not an idle quality in the heart but the divine work of distinguishing between Law and Gospel. Faith clings to Jesus Christ alone for forgiveness over and against the verdict of the Law and thus inherits eternal life. *O God, strengthen our faith to hold fast to the promises of the Gospel. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: **Matthew 5:1-12 – Blessed Are You**

Those named by Jesus in the Beatitudes are blessed in the present tense, that is, right now, but most of the rewards promised by Jesus are in the future tense, that is, not yet. For example, those who mourn are blessed now, but their comfort is yet to come. However, there is a reward that Jesus declares to be theirs right now: the kingdom of heaven. Though we may suffer now on earth, heaven is ours now. Therefore we are blessed now, and we can be certain that we will receive all that God has promised in His good time. *Grant, dear Lord, that we might not lose hope but cling to Your promises in every circumstance. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: **Psalms 48 – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

As Jesus warned in John 15, the world hates the Church. We need not fear, however, for God has made Himself known as our fortress. He is our God forever and ever not because of our merit but by His grace alone. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have come to know God's steadfast love, and through the Gospel we are made members of His kingdom. And as Revelation 14 states, this promise is not just to be proclaimed to one people or nation but indeed to the ends of the earth. Great indeed is the Lord! *We praise You, O God, for making us members of Your kingdom forever and ever. Amen.*