

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Apocraphal Esther 13:9–11; (Psalm 119:1, 38–40)**

The whole world is / in Your power;*
O Lord, King Almighty, no one can / gainsay You.
For You have made / heav'n and earth;*
You are / Lord of all!
Blessed are the undefiled / in the way,*
who walk in the law / of the Lord!
Establish Your word to Your / servant,*
who is devoted to / fearing You.
Turn away my reproach / which I dread,*
for Your judg- / ments are good.
Behold, I long for Your / precepts;*
revive me in Your / righteousness.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Hosea 13:14**
“I shall ransom them from the power of Sheol; I shall redeem them from Death. O Death, where are your plagues? O Sheol, where is your sting? Compassion is hidden from my eyes.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
Lord, we implore You to keep Your household the Church in continual godliness, that through Your protection she may be free from all adversities and devoutly given to serve You in good works; 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 **Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word**
TLH 261, LSB 655
Martin Luther



- 1. Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word;
Curb those who fain by craft and sword
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son
And set at naught all He hath done.
- 2. Lord Jesus Christ, Thy power make known,
For Thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend Thy Christendom that we
May evermore sing praise to Thee.
- 3. O Comforter of priceless worth.
Send peace and unity on earth.
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.



“Resisting the World Ruled by the Devil”

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 October 20-26, 2024

THEME OF THE WEEK: Resisting the World Ruled by the Devil

The Lord's Word is our shield, our fortress, the giver of all good things, the source of our forgiveness, our joy, our strength, and all things. Therefore the Lord constantly reminds us to hold fast to His Word, to guard it and treasure it, to look to it for wisdom and comfort and instruction, to trust in it to bring about our faith, to sustain us in holy living, and to bring us to eternal life.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 4:46-54 I – Healing from a Distance

A father asks Jesus to come to his home and heal his son. Jesus, though, refuses to go. Instead, He sends His Word. But that is all that is needed. The Word of Jesus moves through creation, to this boy, and heals him. For just as Jesus spoke all things into existence in the beginning, so too does he speak and heal the boy. We learn from this to rejoice that God has, in His kindness, given to us the one thing which is truly needful: His Word. For if we have His Word, we have all things needed for this life and for the life to come. We have forgiveness, salvation, righteousness, peace, eternal healing, and everything else needed. *Lord, thank you for sending me Your Word, that through it I may obtain all Your gracious gifts and promises. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:161-168 (SIN & SHIN) – The Word is a Treasure

"I rejoice at Your Word like one who finds great spoil." The Psalmist is giving a wonderful picture of the Scriptures. They are like a giant treasure chest which we have come across. As we start digging through it, we not only find gold, silver, and precious jewels, but we find bread, hope, life, salvation, and all good things. As we dig through the chest and find more and more treasure, one thing begins to stand out: the chest never becomes empty. As much as we pull out, it somehow always remains full. This is what the Lord's Word is, a chest of endless and boundless treasures. This is why we rejoice in it. *Lord, thank You for giving me all the unending treasures of Your Word. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:10-17 – Armored in Christ to Stand

The Lord reminds us that we are in the midst of a cosmic war being waged over the souls of men. We don't have a choice on whether we're in the war. But we do have a choice on whether we fight. And so the Lord shows us that He has, in our baptism, equipped us for this battle with His own armor. But this armor isn't for running into the fray and slaying all the demons. Instead it strengthens us to fight where the Lord has planted us, in our vocations, so that when the dust settles and the war is ended on the last day, we, the Lord's Christians, are found victorious in Christ. *Lord, thank You for clothing me with Your armor so that I may be steadfast in the day of battle. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Hosea 13:14 – Purchased from the Grave

The enemy which seems to plague us, especially our consciences, the most, is death. It looms around every corner. It is the result of our sin. And the devil comes walking up arm and arm with death to tempt us with fear and despair. But the Lord promises that He Himself will defeat this great enemy. He Who is life itself will contend with death and life retains the victory. In this, we are purchased, redeemed from the grave, and we are given new and eternal life in Christ. So that now, though we encounter death, it is only a sleep, a short rest in the grave, until our Lord comes to awaken us to eternal glory on the last day. *Lord, thank You for destroying death and giving me Your life. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 4:31-42 – Rejoicing in the Work

Sometimes the Lord gives us the task of planting and laboring in His vineyard. Sometimes the Lord gives us the task of harvesting that which has been planted. And sometimes we have the privilege of doing both. And we should have joy in all of it. Especially when the Lord has given us to labor and we don't see the fruit of that labor, we can be tempted to lose heart and despair, as though the Word is ineffective. But Jesus reminds us that we are to rejoice in this work because we know that someone else will be sent to reap the harvest from what we have planted. The sower and reaper rejoice together! *Lord, thank You for calling me to labor in Your vineyard so that I may have more neighbors in the blessed resurrection. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 3:7-13 – Hold Fast to the Word

The Lord has given us a great treasure in His Word. Through this Word we receive nourishment for this life and the glory of the life to come. Through this Word the Holy Spirit makes His dwelling among us. Through this Word we have the gifts of Baptism, Absolution, and Lord's Supper. Through this Word we have all that belongs to the Father and His Son. Through this Word our sin is forgiven, the devil is cast out, and death is destroyed. So Jesus reminds us to hold fast to what we have, to hold fast to this Word, so that we retain also our crown of eternal life. *Lord, thank You for giving me Your Word that I may also have eternal life. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 31 – A God Who Knows Grief

In this life the most destructive things we experience are grief and sorrow. These emotions are not only very strong, but also very persistent. When we grieve and sorrow we can feel as though there's no escape, like we are falling down a dark hole which has no end and no way out. In all of this we can feel very alone. But the Lord has not only bore our sins. He has also bore our griefs and sorrows. He is well acquainted with them, so that He can save us these times. We see this especially in this Psalm which is prayed by our Lord from the cross. He knows our griefs and He knows how best to end them. *Lord, thank You for taking my grief upon Yourself so that You can help me in every need. Amen.*

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