

## 5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 33:5-6, 1, 18-20**

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. Alle- | luia.\*

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made. Alle- | luia!

Rejoice in the Lord, O you | righteous!\*

For praise from the upright is | beautiful.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who | fear Him,\*

on those who hope in His | mercy.

To deliver their | soul from death,\*

and to keep them alive in | famine.

Our soul waits | for the Lord;\*

He is our help | and our shield.

## 6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **John 20:19b**

Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."

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

## 8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Merciful Father, who by the humiliation of Your Son raised up the fallen world, grant to Your faithful people perpetual gladness, and make those whom You have delivered from the danger of everlasting death to be partakers of eternal joys; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## 9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

## 10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK **O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe**

TLH 263, LSB 666

Johann M. Altenburg



1. O little flock, fear not the Foe  
Who madly seeks your overthrow;  
Dread not his rage and power.  
What though your courage sometimes  
faints,  
His seeming triumph o'er God's saints  
Lasts but a little hour.

2. Be of good cheer; your cause belongs  
To Him who can avenge your wrongs;  
Leave it to Him, our Lord.  
Though hidden yet from mortal eyes,  
His Gideon shall for you arise,  
Uphold you and His Word.

3. As true as God's own Word is true.  
Not earth nor hell with all their crew  
Against us shall prevail.  
A jest and byword are they grown;  
God is with us, we are His own;  
Our victory cannot fail.

4. Amen, Lord Jesus, grant our prayer;  
Great Captain, now Thine arm make  
bare,  
Fight for us once again!  
So shall Thy saints and martyrs raise  
A mighty chorus to Thy praise,  
World without end. Amen.



**Around the Word Devotions + April 10-16, 2016**  
Brought to you by **Worldview Everlasting**

**"He is Risen to Bring Us Forgiveness and Faith"**

**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 April 10-16, 2016

**THEME OF THE WEEK: He is Risen to Bring Us Forgiveness and Faith**

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! The resurrection of Jesus, like everything He has done, is not for Him, but for us. His resurrection means our resurrection. His cross and resurrection mean our eternal life and salvation. His victory is our hope and our confidence and our peace. Easter is not over, in fact, it will never be over. Jesus is only the first fruits from the grave, and we are sure to follow. In the readings this week we continue to hear the joy and promises of the resurrection of Jesus for us.

**SUN**

**SCRIPTURE: John 20:19-31: Sent to Forgive**

Jesus breathes on His disciples, gives them the Holy Spirit, and sends them out into the world to forgive sins. The wounds in the hands and feet and side have prevailed over sin and death. Jesus has won the victory, and now He sends the eye-witnesses of His victory into the world to distribute the spoils, that is, to forgive sins. We call this the absolution. Pastors speak this great promise to us in the church service and privately, "I forgive you all your sins." Christians speak this beautiful promise to each other, "In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven." In these words the victory of the cross is delivered directly to the Christian's conscience. God be praised! *Lord Jesus, thank You for giving the absolution to Your people. May we treasure it. Amen.*

**MON**

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 111: Praise the Lord**

Psalm 111 is a beautiful hymn of praise to God, His work and His word. Everything the Lord does is true and honorable and good. Verse 9 is especially comforting, "He has sent redemption to His people." Redemption is the price for our rescue, and this price has been paid in the death of Jesus. He "redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death." Jesus' suffering and death is our redemption, and for this especially we praise the Lord, world without end. *O Lord, Your praise endures forever. Thank You for sending our Redemption, Your Son Jesus. Amen.*

**TUE**

**SCRIPTURE: 1 John 5:4-10: Victory over the World**

In John's writing, "the world" is the sinful kingdom of darkness that is constantly attacking the Lord's church. The world hates Jesus, and it hates everything and everyone who belongs to Jesus. This includes you. So the Christian life is a battlefield, a war against the world, the flesh, and the devil. But John here speaks of how we overcome the world. "Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" Our faith, our trust in the promise of Jesus, our confidence that Jesus was dead and is raised and that our sins are forgiven, this is our victory and our triumph (see 5:4). *Holy Spirit, continue to give and strengthen our faith through and with the promises of Your Word. Amen.*

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**WED**

**SCRIPTURE: Job 19:23-27: The Old Testament Preaching of the Resurrection**

It is often thought that the resurrection is a New Testament idea. This is false. The teaching of the resurrection of the body runs through the Old Testament as well, and our text today is beautiful proof. Job is explicit: "After my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God." This is also our hope. As we wait for the Lord to return we die and are buried, but we know that Jesus will stand on the earth on the last day, and He will call us out of the grave, and we will live forever in the glory and beauty of His resurrection and life. Our hope and confidence is the same as Job. Even after our skin is destroyed, we will be raised, and in our flesh we will dwell with God. *Come Lord Jesus. Amen.*

**THU**

**SCRIPTURE: John 21:15-19: Follow Me**

"Follow Me." These are the words that Jesus uses to call the disciples away from their fishing nets and tax tables to be His apostles. "Follow Me" meant that they would give up their jobs, their homes, even their lives for the name of Jesus. "Follow Me" would take the disciples from Galilee all around Israel and at last to Jerusalem, to Pilate, to the cross, and the tomb. But now Jesus is raised from the dead, ready to ascend to the Father's right hand, and still He says to the disciples and to us, "Follow Me." We follow Jesus through sickness and pain and death until He brings us, also, to stand in glory before Him. "Follow Me." When we hear those words, we rejoice. *Lord Jesus, bring us with You through death to life eternal. Amen.*

**FRI**

**SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 1:17-2:3: As Newborn Babies**

"As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word." What an image! Think of a hungry newborn. They cry. They are angry. They fuss and fuss and cannot be comforted with anything but milk. That, says St. Peter, is how we are to be: longing, thirsting, desiring the milk of God's Word, and not being satisfied until we get it. God grant this to us. Many Christians are content with theological pacifiers, but we long and clamor for God's Word which endures forever (1:25). We, after all, have been "born again... through the word of God which lives and abides forever" (1:23). *Heavenly Father, grant us a longing desire for Your Word, and satisfy that desire in the hearing of the same. Amen.*

**SAT**

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 4: Peaceful Sleep**

Whenever people are having trouble sleeping at night, or are troubled in their dreams, I prescribe Psalm 4 immediately before going to bed. "I will both lie down in peace, and sleep, for You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety" (4:8). The Lord is the one who keeps us, who protects us and watches over us. Our lives are in His hands, and this is good. If our life were in our own hands we would have ruined everything long ago, but the same hands that were nailed to the cross for our sins watch over and protect us as we sleep, even when we sleep the sleep of death. This is our comfort, "I will lie down in peace." *Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.*

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