

**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 **Matthew 16:24**  
“Then Jesus told his disciples, ‘If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.’”

**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



1. We now implore the Holy Ghost  
For the true faith, which we need  
the most,  
That in our last moments He may  
befriend us  
And, as homeward we journey,  
attend us.  
Lord, have mercy!

4. Thou highest Comfort in every need,  
Grant that neither shame nor death  
we heed,  
That e'en then our courage may never  
fail us  
When the Foe shall accuse and  
assail us.  
Lord, have mercy!



**“The Sanctification Wrought by the Spirit”**

**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 26-July 2, 2016

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

Sanctification (being made holy) results from justification. We are being declared forgiven for the sake of Jesus and His innocent suffering and death. This causes a radical change in the believer, who has been born from above through the washing of water and the Spirit in Baptism. It is both instant and takes place over the course of the life of the Christian, who is called to follow Christ, even through suffering. This suffering will often manifest in persecution, but the Scriptures remind us that, despite our experience in the world, we have been chosen by God Himself to be His royal priesthood.

SUN

### SCRIPTURE: Luke 5:1-11: Jesus Calls the First Disciples

Jesus called Peter, Andrew, James, and John from their fishing business to cast the net of the Gospel into the world and draw men into the ark of the Holy Christian Church. But seeing his own unworthiness, Peter fell to his knees in contrition before the Christ he now recognized in teaching confirmed by the miraculous catch of fish. The sinful Peter should have died in the presence of Holy God, but our Lord absolved Him with the words “Do not be afraid.” This is the life of the Christian. We, too, are raised from the dead by our Lord’s forgiving word and made holy by the same. *O Lord, You have called us Your own in Baptism. Keep us in the same and raise us to new life both here in time and with You in eternity. Amen.*

MON

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:33-40: Teach us!

The call to become a disciple in Baptism is accompanied by instruction in the Lord’s Word (cf. Matthew 28:19-20). Here, the Psalmist asks that the Lord would teach him the Word with the result that he would keep it with his whole heart. The Scriptures confront us with our sin, give us the forgiveness of sins in Christ, and teach us how to live a godly life, here in time and in eternity. We are not to continue in sin, but we are called to turn from selfish gain and worthless things—for the end of these things is death. All this is grounded in and proceeds from the forgiveness Christ won for us by His death, whereby He gives us new life. *Lord, I long for Your precepts; in Your righteousness, give me life! Amen.*

TUE

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 3:8-15: Our hope is in Christ

As we are drawn into the Scriptures and made holy in Christ, we are drawn into a unity with one another that is found in Christ and His Word. We know the ruin sin has caused us, but we also know the compassion that drove our Lord Christ to rescue us from death. This makes us all the more zealous to give people a reason for the hope that is in us, for what does this dying world need more than the life that Christ brings to us? This increased zeal may bring us suffering, but what is that compared to the blessing we have in our Lord? Because you have been made holy, your life belongs to Christ. Neither the devil nor the world can take it from you. *O Lord, grant us the Spirit that we might confess You without fear. Amen.*



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WED

### SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:13-26: Saints Peter and Paul

The Apostles were no strangers to sin, but by God’s grace, they learned to confess Christ, the Son of the Living God. By the Spirit’s inspiration, they wrote the Scriptures that we might hear the living voice of Jesus today. They are an example to us of the fearless confidence that is found only in Christ, the unassailable rock upon which the Church is founded. *Merciful and eternal God, Your holy apostles Peter and Paul received grace and strength to lay down their lives for the sake of Your Son. Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit that we may confess Your truth and at all times be ready to lay down our lives for Him who laid down His life for us. Amen.*

THU

### SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 16:14-21: Fishers and Hunters

No one can hide from God. He sees them, regardless of how scattered they become. This also means that their sins are not hidden from His sight, and His wrath over sin burns hot. But God stands by His promise to gather His people to Himself. This He did by sending the prophets and apostles—and now, pastors—to “fish” and “hunt” for His chosen saints. Though their sins are great, God has laid their iniquity upon Christ, and for His sake, forgives them their sins through the absolution He places in the mouths of His servants. They make God known to the people through the Triune Name placed upon them in baptism, which is the power and might of God to save sinners. *Lord, forgive our sins for the sake of Christ and gather us into the Church. Amen.*

FRI

### SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 2:4-10: A House of Living Stones and Royal Priests

Christ Jesus was the stone rejected by men Who became the chief cornerstone upon which the Church is built. Likewise, Christians are rejected and despised by men, but are, by God’s grace, made living stones who are being built into a spiritual house. In Baptism, God has chosen you and made you precious in His sight through the cleansing flood of Jesus’ blood. And because you are priests, you are given the sacred duty to offer spiritual sacrifices to God through prayer and by faith in His promises. God has made you His and shown you mercy, that you might proclaim His mercy to the world. *O Lord, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we might boldly proclaim Your excellencies to those who sit in darkness. Amen.*

SAT

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

Our culture of death treats lowly children as if they were but clumps of cells. But by His incarnation, Jesus showed that even the smallest person in a mother’s womb is worth saving, and John’s leap shows that faith is a gift God bestows even on the pre-born. What joy it is to know that our Lord regards us so highly that He would become our brother in order to save us from sin and death! He emptied Himself to fill us with good things and became poor, that we might be rich in righteousness. *Almighty God, You chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother of Your Son and made known through her Your gracious regard for the poor, lowly, and despised. Grant that we may receive Your Word in humility and faith, and so be made one with Christ. Amen.*

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