

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 22:19, 21, 1, 7-8, 11

But You, O Lord, do not be | far from Me;*
O My Strength, hasten to | help Me!
Save Me from the | lion's mouth*
and from the horns of the wild | oxen!
My God, My God, why have You for- | saken Me?*

Why are You so far from | helping Me.
All those who see Me ridi- | cule Me;*

they shoot out the lip, they | shake the head.
They say "He trusted in the Lord, let Him | rescue Him;*"
let Him deliver Him, since He de- | lights in Him!"

Be not far from Me, for trou- | ble is near;*

for there is | none to help.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Philippians 2:8-9

Christ for our sakes became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross; therefore God has highly exalted Him, and given Him a Name which is above every name.

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon Him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross that all mankind should follow the example of His great humility, mercifully grant that we may both be guided by His patience in this life and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, 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
A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

TLH 142, LSB 438
Paul Gerhardt



1. A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
The guilt of all men bearing;
And laden with the sins of earth,
None else the burden sharing!
Goes patient on, grow weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer;
Bears shame and stripes, and wounds
and death,
Anguish and mockery, and saith,
"Willing all this I suffer."

4. From morn till eve my theme shall be
Thy mercy's wondrous measure;
To sacrifice myself for Thee
Shall be my aim and pleasure.
My stream of life shall ever be
A current flowing ceaselessly,
Thy constant praise outpouring.
I'll treasure in my memory,
O Lord, all Thou hast done for me,
Thy gracious love adoring.



"He Suffered All the Penalties of Human Sin"

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 March 20-26, 2016

THEME OF THE WEEK: He Suffered All the Penalties of Human Sin

Each day of Holy Week has its own readings, and you may be hearing them as you attend services at your congregation. But along with hearing the Palm Sunday procession, the four Passion accounts, the upper room and Christ's death and burial, take up also our Lord's prayers: the Psalms. They are prophetic of His saving work (Luke 24) and they were also His own prayers to His Father. The ancient Church assigned especially Psalms 22–26 to the days of the week, and the reasoning was their connection to the events of Holy Week. This week's devotions use these Psalms to trace the events of Holy Week. If you lack time this week for your usual devotion, pray just these Psalms (and read their accompanying meditations). Consider them in light of what you are hearing each day in the Divine Service.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 118 (Passion Reading: John 18:1-14)

It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. Some will cheer *Hosanna*; others, *crucify*. Psalm 118 summarizes all of Holy Week: *Hosanna, Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord*; then Christ is *compassed about* by His enemies; at last *the sacrifice* will be *bound to the horns of the altar*. In all of it *the right hand of the Lord does valiantly*. *The rejected stone is made the cornerstone*. Jesus is *chastened* in our place. But Easter is already in sight: *I shall not die, but live*.
O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.
Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 24 (Passion Reading: John 18:15-24)

Behold, your King comes to you righteous and having salvation. Who is this king of glory? The Lord of hosts. Who can ascend the hill of the Lord? Only one with clean hands and a pure heart. It cannot be us, whose *sin lies always before* us. It is the One who weeps over Jerusalem and rides to the cross as a sacrifice. There He *receives the blessing from the Lord* to be the *righteousness from the God of our Salvation*. There the true High Priest stretches out blood-covered hands to bless His people—the Righteous for the unrighteous.
Give us Your blessing, O King, by the blood of Your covenant. Amen.

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 25 (Passion Reading: John 18:25-40)

The troubles of My heart are enlarged; bring Me out of My distresses. Consider My enemies, for they are many. Christ, who overlooked Jerusalem with tears, now clears the Temple. Scribes and Pharisees attack Him. *Let not my enemies triumph over Me!* But for those who hear, Christ *teaches sinners in the way*. *The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him: He will show them His covenant*. Jesus is days from the end of His path. But *all the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth* for us.
Redeem us, O God, out of all our troubles. Amen.

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WED

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 26 (It is a long standing tradition to read St. Luke's Passion, 22:1-23:43 on Holy Wednesday)

The Jewish leaders plot and Judas agrees to betray Jesus. *Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men: in whose hands are mischief and bribes.* But Christ, the innocent who must be wrongfully betrayed and tried, presses on toward His goal. *I wash my hands in innocency; so will I compass Your altar, O Lord, that I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Your wondrous works.* His altar will be a cross, from which He will preach His final sermon: *Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.*
Grant us to walk in Your integrity, Lord; redeem us and be merciful to us.
Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 23 (Passion Reading: John 19:1-16)

Jesus gathers His disciples and *prepares a table before them in the presence of His enemies*. He *anoints* not their *heads*, but their feet, washing them in service. He prays in the garden that the *cup* of God's wrath be taken from Him, but He will obey the Father's will and *drink it to the dregs* (Ps. 75). He fills that *cup* to *overflowing* with His mercy and forgiveness, for no wrath remains for His own. He *leads us through the valley of the shadow of death* like a *Shepherd* into all *righteousness*. We have *no evil to fear*.
Good Shepherd, help us to eat Your Supper in repentance and faith in the unity of a true confession. Amen.

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 22 (Passion Reading: John 19:17-30)

My God, why have You forsaken Me? The Holy One's gracious presence departs from His Son. The Innocent is made the greatest Sinner of all, that sinners may be cleansed. *All who see Him laugh at Him. They pierce His hands and feet. They part His garments.* And the *lion* roars temptations *saying, "He trusted in the Lord that He would deliver Him."* But Jesus does not lose faith in the midst of death and the hell of the cross. *Be not far from Me, O Lord; make haste to help me!*
Into Your hands, O Lord, I commit my Spirit. Amen. (Ps. 31).

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 88 (Passion Reading: John 19:31-42)

Christ is laid in a stranger's tomb. *I am counted with them that lie in the grave; you have laid me in the lowest pit. Your wrath lies hard upon Me.* But though disciples cower and women prepare for decay, hope is not lost. *Shall the dead arise and praise You? Yes! For it is finished.* Christ rests to fulfill this Sabbath for us. His descent into hell will not be to suffer but to proclaim victory and break death's steely jaws forever. Hell cannot contain Him. He is *free among the dead!*
Remember us in death and raise us with Your Son, for You are the God of our Salvation. Amen.

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