

“He is Risen to Proclaim the Truth”



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 98:1-2, 3-4**  
 Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Alle- | luia!\*  
 His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations. Alle- |  
 luia  
 His right hand and His | holy arm\*  
 have gained Him the | victory.  
 He has remembered His | mercy\*  
 and His faithfulness to the house of | Israel.  
 All the ends | of the earth\*  
 have seen the salvation | of our God.  
 Shout joyfully to the Lord, | all the earth;\*  
 break forth in song, rejoice, and sing | praises.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **James 1:21**  
 “Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with  
 meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”

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

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK  
 Our merciful Father, the God who alone make minds of the faithful to be of  
 one will, cause Your people to love what You command and to desire what  
 You promise, that among the manifold changes of this world our hearts may  
 be fixed where true joys are to be found; through 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 **Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice**  
 TLH 387, LSB 556  
 Martin Luther



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| <p>1. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,<br/>                 With exultation springing,<br/>                 And, with united heart and voice<br/>                 And holy rapture singing,<br/>                 Proclaim the wonders God hath done,<br/>                 How His right arm the victory won;<br/>                 Right dearly it hath cost Him.</p> | <p>4. But God beheld my wretched state<br/>                 Before the world's foundation,<br/>                 And, mindful of His mercies great,<br/>                 He planned my soul's salvation.<br/>                 A father's heart He turned to me,<br/>                 Sought my redemption fervently:<br/>                 He gave His dearest Treasure.</p> |
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**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: He is Risen to Proclaim the Truth**

As we reflect on the truth that our Lord Jesus proclaims in His resurrection, this week we see the necessity of it all. Not only the necessity of His death for our salvation, but the necessity of His death as a witness to the truth of His Gospel. We see also the necessity of our response to His love for us. We pray that God would grant us the necessary meekness to hear this Gospel and that we would rightly respond in praise and thanksgiving for the salvation that Jesus accomplished for us at the cross.

SUN

**SCRIPTURE: John 16:5-15: The Necessity of God's Plan**

Before our Lord Jesus was raised from the dead He first had to die. Our Lord taught His disciples many times concerning His impending death. Our text is one example. In it, as Jesus speaks of what is to come, one thing becomes clear: the necessity of it all. It was necessary for Jesus to die. It was necessary for Him to die for our sins. It was necessary for Him to return to the Father. It was necessary for the Holy Spirit to be given to His people. And it is necessary for Him to come again. All of these things are necessities not for Jesus Himself as though He needs them, but they are necessities for us and for our sake. All of what our Lord does is for our benefit. It is all for your benefit. *O Lord, thank You for all of Your works done that I may be redeemed. Please hold me in this true faith of Your promises. Amen.*

MON

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 82: The Necessity of God's Judgment**

This is a hard text. We don't often speak of God in these ways. Our God sitting in a council of gods? But if we keep reading, we see that God is there to judge those who are on this council. They may take the title of gods, but they will fall like princes because of their injustice and evil rulings. This speaks to the glory of our resurrected Lord Jesus. As we read yesterday, the Holy Spirit convicts the world because of sin. It is necessary for Jesus to judge the world. This is a terrifying thing for those who do not belong to Him. But in faith and by baptism we have the assurance of His love, and not His judgment. We are not gods, but we are the children of the true God. *O Lord, come quickly to judge the nations and restore creation for the benefit of Your faithful people. Amen.*

TUE

**SCRIPTURE: James 1:16-21: The Necessity of Meekness**

The resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is incredibly significant. It brings us the truth of redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. However, James does well to point out that we can prevent ourselves from hearing this beautiful message. When we are full of anger, it is difficult to hear the words of God's love and it is also difficult to speak such words of love. James reminds us that anger does not produce righteousness. He encourages us to see the necessity of meekness so that we may receive this Word of truth, which is able to save our souls. *O Lord, please forgive my rampant wickedness and anger. Grant to me, I pray, the meekness to receive Your Word with gladness and to rejoice in the salvation You have given me. Amen.*

WED

**SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 12:1-6: The Necessity of Praise**

Yesterday we were encouraged to put away our anger. Today we see the example of the Lord God putting aside His own anger toward us. The anger that God could rightly have against our sins is turned aside that He might comfort us in our Lord Jesus Christ. Through His blood God gives us salvation and we drink deeply from this well. It is necessary then that we praise our Lord by our words and deeds. Not only do we tell others about what our Lord has done for us, we speak of what He has done for them as well. We joyfully lift our voices to praise Him through word and song. *O Lord, I thank You for the mercy You have shown me in Christ. Please help me show Your love and speak of Your love to my neighbor who You have given me to serve. Amen.*

THU

**SCRIPTURE: John 8:21-36: The Necessity for Jesus to Die**

Jesus, in our text, reveals the necessity of His death. He tells the Jews arguing with Him that they will know the truth of what Jesus says when He is lifted up. We know that He was lifted up by the cross. At the cross and the empty tomb we see the truth of all Jesus said. From the events of His crucifixion with the darkness and the earthquake to His physical resurrection, it all becomes clear Jesus truly is God and has been sent by His Father. It was necessary for Jesus to die so that we might see His truth and glory, which shines even into our day and into eternity. *O Lord, I praise You for Your dying for me and rising again. Through Your blood, I am healed and forgiven. Grant that I may see Your glory all my days. Amen.*

FRI

**SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21: The Necessity of Reconciliation**

We know that it was necessary for Jesus to die. In our text today, we see another facet of this necessity. It was necessary for Jesus to die so that we would have life in Him. We have life in Him and we have life for Him now that He has redeemed us. Through the work of Christ we are made new creatures, part of His new creation. This righteousness allows us to be in God's presence. Because we are new creations in Jesus, we have been reconciled to God in fullness. All of this necessity is given for our benefit that we may have peace with God through Jesus. *O Lord, You have made me new and made me righteous. Grant that I may remain in Your grace and serve You faithfully. Amen.*

SAT

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 126: The Necessity of Waiting**

We see in this text the result of these necessary things God has done, most importantly His death and resurrection. As a result of the redemption that is ours in Christ, we rejoice. We see that our sorrows are turned to joy. Our tears of pain become tears of joy. These are the promises that are ours in Christ right now, even if we don't see them in their fullness. But we know that it is necessary for us to wait. We wait for the day when we see these things fulfilled in front of our very eyes on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. This is the promise that we have. It is in this that we hope. *O Lord, I thank You for the mercies You have shown me so many times in my life. I pray that I might have the eyes to see Your mercies and that I would then praise and thank You as I ought. Amen.*

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