



"God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create"

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 January 18-24, 2026

THEME OF THE WEEK: God Manifested in the Power of Jesus to Create

Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal. He turns the water to wine. He seeks and saves the lost. He loves us with such a profound love that He not only saves us for ourselves, but He even makes us helpful to each other. He teaches us to fear, love, and trust in God above all things, knowing that He works all things together for our good. In His presence is fullness of joy, and He walks with us on the path of life that has no end. This week we give thanks to Jesus who shows Himself, in every way, to be our Savior and our Friend.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: John 2:1-11 Water to Wine

We would expect that the first miracle of our Lord after His incarnation would be something extravagant, like raising the dead or making the lame to walk. But, instead, He turns water into wine for a wedding party. It seems like a frivolous miracle, until we look back and see that the first vocation the Lord gave to humanity after creation was marriage. And so, now, for His first miracle after His putting on flesh, He blesses, again, the vocation of marriage and brings great joy and delight to this couple and all their guests with the best wine. *Lord Jesus, bless all marriages with joy and delight, and where there is strife, bring forgiveness and peace. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 14 The Fool and His Godless Heart

"The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'" The Scriptures teach us that the beginning of wisdom is the fear of the LORD (see Proverbs 9:10). When we know God and His Law, the Ten Commandments, wisdom has begun. If we do not know God, or if we say we don't, the Bible identifies us as "fools." But the fear of God is only wisdom's start, the Bible wants us to love and trust in God above all things. This is the middle and the end of wisdom, that we look to God for all good, and trust Him even in the difficult times. Instead of the foolishness of saying "No God," we confess, "I believe in God the Father Almighty..." *O Lord, give us the wisdom of knowing Your name, Your Word, and Your promises. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:6-16a Genuine Love

Love is what makes the diversity of the Church into a harmony. Were we to treat God's gracious gifts like the world, the Church would look like everyone vying for their slice of power; where love rules, the Church acts in concert as a body. Christians are to outdo each other in their humility, not their personal prowess. Even in the face of persecution, our response is to suffer it harmoniously and to bless those who harm us. Such is the confidence that comes from Christ's all-sufficient salvation.

Lord, turn me from myself and all evil and help me to hold fast to what is good. Amen.

WED**SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 18: 15-19 A Prophet Like Moses**

Next to Genesis 3:15, this passage is the most important prophecy of Christ in the books of Moses. Moses is more than a prophet, he is the deliverer; he is the man who stood before Pharaoh and called for him to let the people go. He is the one who stood at the Red Sea so the people could go through. Moses is the one who stood in the presence of God on the mountain for 40 days, and carried down to the people the Ten Commandments and the instructions for the liturgy and the worship of God. We rejoice that Jesus is our deliverer, He has brought us from darkness into the kingdom of light, He has baptized us, He gives us His Word, and His body and blood, and will, at last, bring us to eternal life. *Lord Jesus, thank You for being my deliverer. Amen.*

THU**SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus the Lost has been Found**

"The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost." Zacchaeus was lost, totally given over to greed and corruption, but the Holy Spirit called him by the Gospel and enlightened him with His gifts, and Zacchaeus repents of his sins. The Pharisees are astonished that Jesus has anything to do with this sinful man, but Jesus came to save sinners. The Pharisees can't see their own sin; they don't even know that they need a Savior. But Zacchaeus, and the tax collectors, and you and I know our sin, we know we are lost, and so we rejoice that Jesus "came to seek and save the lost." *O Lord, thank You for seeking and saving my brother Zacchaeus, and thank You for seeking and saving me. Amen.*

FRI**SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:21-33 A Picture of Christ and the Church**

As we saw on Sunday, the Lord is always concerned about marriage, thus His first miracle is the blessing of a marriage with good wine. Here, we get a glimpse behind the curtain, to see part of the reason why marriage is so precious to the Lord. We see that marriage is, in fact, a picture of the relationship between Christ and His bride, the Church. So any time we see a husband and wife in the world, we are to be reminded, not only of the great love between them, nor only of the Lord's great love for them, but especially, of the Lord's great love for His own bride, the One, Holy, Christian, and Apostolic Church, for whom He has shed His blood. *Lord, thank You for making me a part of Your bride, the Church, and redeeming me with Your blood. Amen.*

SAT**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 16 The Path of Life**

Take a look at verse 11 of this magnificent Psalm, "You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fulness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." This is a promise of the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. We have this great hope that the trouble and sorrows of this world will soon come to an end, we will reach the end of this valley of tears, and we will walk forever on the path of life; we will be with Jesus, beholding His face, and He will be our treasure and our joy that never ends. With this hope we press on, trusting, praying, working, knowing that the death of Jesus has made a way for us to come to eternal life. *Dear Jesus, bring us at last to the eternal joy and pleasure of Your presence. Amen.*

5**PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 66:4, 92:1; 66:1-5, 20**

All the earth shall | worship You,*
 and sing praises to | You, O God.*
 They shall sing praises | to Your name;*
 to Your name, | O Most High.
 Make a joyful shout to God, | all the earth!*

Sing out the honor of His name; make His praise | glorious.
 Say to God, “How awesome | are Your works!*

All the earth shall sing prais- | es to You.”
 Come and see the | works of God;*
 He is awesome in His doing toward the | sons of men.
 Blessed be God, who has not turned a- | way my prayer,*
 nor His mercy | from me!

6**SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Luke 19:10**

“The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

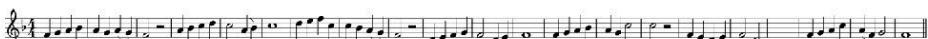
7**READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)****8****PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

Almighty and everlasting God, Governor of all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear the supplications of Your people and grant us Your peace in our time: 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****Of the Father's Love Begotten**

TLH 98, LSB 384

Aurelius C. Prudentius



1. Of the Father's love begotten
 Ere the worlds began to be,
 He is Alpha and Omega,
 He the Source, the Ending He,
 Of the things that are, that have been,
 And that future years shall see
 Evermore and evermore.
2. This is He whom Heaven taught singers
 Sang of old with one accord;
 Whom the Scriptures of the prophets
 Promised in their faithful word.
 Now He shines, the Long-expected;
 Let creation praise its Lord
 Evermore and evermore.
3. O ye heights of heaven, adore Him;
 Angel hosts, His praises sing;
 Powers, dominions, bow before Him
 And extol our God and King,
 Let no tongue on earth be silent,
 Every voice in concert ring
 Evermore and evermore.
4. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
 And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
 Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
 And unending praises be,
 Honor, glory, and dominion,
 And eternal victory
 Evermore and evermore.
5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
 And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
 Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
 And unending praises be,
 Honor, glory, and dominion,
 And eternal victory
 Evermore and evermore.