

East Palmyra Christian Reformed Church
Lord's Day Devotions
April 26, 2020

Psalm 124:8:

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Scripture of Praise (Read 1 Chronicles 16:18-36):

(Song: "Amazing Grace" #691 in the red hymnal and #380 in the blue Psalter-Hymnal)

Prayer for God's Blessing:

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Reading of God's Law (Read Deuteronomy 5:6-21)

Confession of Sins:

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let your word abide with us until it has wrought in us your holy will. Amen.

God's Promise of Forgiveness (Galatians 4:26-29):

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all

one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Psalm of Thanksgiving (Read Psalm 57)

Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day #3, Question 8

Q. But are we so corrupt that we are totally unable to do any good and inclined toward all evil?

A. Yes, unless we are born again by the Spirit of God.

Prayer for God's Blessing on the Hearing of His Word:

Blessed Lord, who has caused Holy Scripture to be written for our learning, grant that we may hear, read, learn, and inwardly digest them, that through the comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament Reading:	Ezekiel 36:24-32
New Testament Reading:	John 3:1-21
	1 Peter 1:3-5

Message:

"Our Living Hope" Pastor Michael Saville
(This message is available on the church website, our Facebook page, or on CD.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

1. Thanksgiving to God for the gift of his Son.
2. Thanksgiving to God for the church and the ministry of the gospel.
3. Thanksgiving to God for his covenant faithfulness and for his daily mercies.

4. Pray for the COVID-19 Pandemic:
 - for those suffering from the virus throughout the world.
 - for those who have lost family members and loved ones.
 - for the medical workers in our hospitals.
 - for the leaders in the U.S. and other nations who are making difficult decisions about how best to handle the situation.
 - that the Lord would bring this pandemic to an end.
 - for those whose livelihoods are being affected.
 - that we would not fear but trust the Lord.
 - that God would be glorified and that good would come through our present circumstances.
 - that congregations like our own would soon be able to meet again safely.

5. Pray for the preaching of the gospel among all the nations.

6. Pray for the persecuted church in nations like China and the Middle East.

7. Pray for our national, state, and local leaders.

8. Pray for our local community
 - for East Palmyra Christian School (principal, teachers, families) as they cope with the challenges of COVID-19 (eg. families losing jobs, changes to fundraising plans).
 - for families who have lost jobs and are being affected in other ways.
 - for other local congregations as they seek to do the Lord's work in these challenging times.
 - for the Family Promise ministry.

9. Pray for the needs of our congregation:
(Please see the Congregational Prayers in the announcements section)

10. Close with the Lord's Prayer

Closing Psalm (Read Psalm 46)

(Song: "God is Our Refuge and Our Strength" #432 in the red hymnal or #84 in the blue Psalter-Hymnal)

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, who has promised to hear the petitions of those who pray in Your Son's name, we ask You mercifully to incline Your ear to us, who have now made our prayers and supplications to You. Grant that those things that we have faithfully asked, according to Your will, may be obtained, to the relief of our needs and to the setting forth of Your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offering: Though we are unable to collect an offering in worship we are encouraging our church family to continue supporting our congregation's ministry in the coming days.

April 26 Offering Schedule:

First Offering:	Ministries of the General Fund
Second Offering:	Heritage Christian Home

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