

East Palmyra Christian Reformed Church

Lord's Day Devotions

March 29, 2020

Psalm 124:8:

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

Psalm of Praise (Psalm 103:19-22):

The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. Praise the Lord, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. Praise the Lord, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. Praise the Lord, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the Lord, O my soul.

(Song: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty." #575 in the red hymnal and #327 in the blue Psalter-Hymnal)

Prayer for God's Blessing:

Almighty and everlasting God,
You are always more ready to hear than we are to pray,
and to give more than we desire or deserve.
Pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is convicted,
and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask,
except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. 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 (1 John 4:10):

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Psalm of Thanksgiving (Read Psalm 136)

(Note: in a family context this Psalm may be done responsively)

Heidelberg Catechism: Q/A #26

What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ the Son.

I trust God so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends upon me in this sad world. God is able to do this because he is almighty God and desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.

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:

Isaiah 40:9-31

New Testament Reading:

Ephesians 1:3-14

Message:

“Behold Your God”

Pastor Saville

(This message is available on the church website, our Facebook page or on CD)

Prayer of Intercession

At this time it would be appropriate to pray for some of the following:

1. Pray for the COVID-19 Pandemic:
 - for those suffering from the virus throughout the world.
 - 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.
2. Pray for the preaching of the gospel and the gathering of Christ’s Church from all the nations.
3. Pray for the persecuted church.
4. Pray for our national, state, and local leaders.
5. 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.

6. Pray for the needs of our congregation:
 - (Please see the Congregational Prayer Needs in the announcements section)

7. Close with the Lord’s Prayer

Closing Psalm (Read Psalm 92)

(Song: “It is Good to Sing Your Praises” #513 in the red hymnal and #180 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.

March 29 Offering Schedule:

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| First Offering: | Ministries of the General Fund |
| Second Offering: | Resonate Global Missions |

All scripture citations are taken from:

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