

East Palmyra Christian Reformed Church
Lord's Day Devotions
May 17, 2020

Psalm 124:8:

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

Scripture of Praise (Read Psalm 147:12-20):

(Song: "Psalm 99" #726 in the red hymnal and #194 in the blue Psalter-Hymnal)

Prayer for God's Blessing:

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Confession of Sins:

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

God's Promise of Forgiveness (Hebrews 9:24):

For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.

Psalm of Thanksgiving (Read Psalm 116)

God's Will for Our Lives (Read Matthew 22:36-40)

Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day #6, Question 19

How do you come to know this?

The holy gospel tells me. God began to reveal the gospel already in Paradise; later God proclaimed it by the holy patriarchs and prophets and foreshadowed it by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law; and finally God fulfilled it through his own beloved Son.

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 11:1-9
New Testament Reading:	Matthew 12:15-21 1 Peter 1:10-12

Message:

"What the Prophets Saw" 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 his Word in which he has revealed the gospel of his Son.
2. Thanksgiving to God for the church which is the body of Christ.
3. Thanksgiving to God for his mercies which are new every morning.

4. Pray for the COVID-19 Pandemic:
 - that God's perfect will should be done.
 - for those suffering because of the virus.
 - 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.
 - pray for those Christian churches that are now considering how and when they will begin to have services again.
 - that congregations like our own would soon be able to meet again safely.

5. Pray for the preaching of the gospel and the gathering of the church from among all nations including here in the United States.

6. Pray for the persecuted church in 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 84)

(Song: "Abide with Me" #466 in the red hymnal or #470 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.

May 17 Offering Schedule:

First Offering: Ministries of the General Fund
 Second Offering: Family Promise

THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION® NIV®
 Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society®
 Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.