

East Palmyra Christian Reformed Church  
Lord's Day Devotions  
May 24, 2020

**Psalm 124:8:**

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

**Scripture of Praise (Read Psalm 134):**

(Song: "Psalm 134" #924 in the red hymnal and #280 in the blue Psalter-Hymnal)

**Prayer for God's Blessing:**

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

**Confession of Sins:**

Holy Father, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not sought to do your will with our whole hearts. We have not lived as grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us. Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin, and restore us to the joy of your salvation now and forever. Amen.

**God's Promise of Forgiveness (Ephesians 2:8-9):**

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

**Psalm of Thanksgiving (Read Psalm 136)**

**God's Will for Our Lives (Read Psalm 119:1-8)**

**Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day #20, Question 53**

What do you believe concerning "the Holy Spirit"?

A. First, that the Spirit, with the Father and the Son, is eternal God. Second, that the Spirit is given also to me, so that, through true faith, he makes me share in Christ and all his benefits, comforts me, and will remain with me forever.

**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 6:1-7
New Testament Reading:	1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
	1 Peter 1:13-16

**Message:**

"The Call to Holiness" Pastor Michael Saville  
(This message is available on the church website, our Facebook page, or on CD.)

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

1. Thanksgiving for Christ's Ascension into heaven to sit at the right hand of God.
2. Thanksgiving to God for the gift of the Holy Spirit through whom we are sanctified and renewed in the image of Christ.

3. Thanksgiving to God for our congregation.
4. Thanksgiving to God for those in our military who have given their lives in the service of our nation.
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.
7. Pray for our national, state, and local leaders. Pray for godliness and wisdom in this nation.
8. Pray for those serving in the U.S. military.
9. 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.
10. 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 Care Net of Wayne County.

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

12. Close with the Lord's Prayer

### **Closing Psalm (Read Psalm 92)**

(Song: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" #348 in the red hymnal or #408 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.

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**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.

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