

East Palmyra Christian Reformed Church
Lord's Day Devotions
May 3, 2020

Psalm 124:8:

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

Scripture of Praise (Read Psalm 100):

(Song: "All People That On Earth Do Dwell" #1 in the red hymnal and #195 in the blue Psalter-Hymnal)

Prayer for God's Blessing:

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Reading of God's Law (Read Exodus 20:1-17)

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 (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 138)

Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day #19, Question 53

How does Christ's return "to judge the living and the dead" comfort you?

In all distress and persecution, with uplifted head, I confidently await the very judge who has already offered himself to the judgment of God in my place and removed the whole curse from me.

Christ will cast all his enemies and mine into everlasting condemnation, but will take me and all his chosen ones to himself into the joy and glory of heaven.

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:	Genesis 22:1-19
New Testament Reading:	James 1:2-4 1 Peter 1:6-7

Message:

"Tested Faith" 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 hope that we have in his Son, Jesus Christ.
2. Thanksgiving to God for his Word which is a lamp unto our feet.

3. Thanksgiving to God for his provision for our daily needs.
4. Pray for the COVID-19 Pandemic:
 - that God would be glorified and that good would come through our present circumstances.
 - 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.
 - 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.
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 108)

(Song: "My Heart Is Firmly Fixed" #734 in the red hymnal or #219 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 3 Offering Schedule:

First Offering:	Ministries of the General Fund
Second Offering:	East Palmyra Christian School

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