



**MIDWEEK DEVOTION – PSALM 53**

**August 25, 2021**

**✠ RESPONSIVE PRAYER 2 ✠**

LSB 285

*Stand*

**OPENING VERSICLES**

**L** O Lord, open my lips,  
**C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

*Psalm 51:15*

**L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.

*Psalm 70:1*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Sit*

**MEDITATION PSALM**

*Psalm 53; antiphon: v. 6*

*The pastor and congregation speak responsively. The antiphon is spoken by the pastor before and after the psalm.*

*(Antiphon)* Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of | Zion!\*

When God restores the fortunes of His people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel | be glad.

<sup>1</sup> The fool says in his heart, “There | is no God.”\*

They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none | who does good.

<sup>2</sup> **God looks down from heaven on the chil- | dren of man\***

**to see if there are any who understand, who seek | after God.**

<sup>3</sup> They have all fallen away; together they have be- | come corrupt;\*

there is none who does good, not | even one.

<sup>4</sup> **Have those who work evil no | knowledge,\***

**who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call up- | on God?**

<sup>5</sup> There they are, in great terror, where there is no | terror!\*

For God scatters the bones of him who encamps against you;

you put them to shame, for God has re- | jected them.

<sup>6</sup> **Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of | Zion!\***

When God restores the fortunes of His people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel | be glad.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*The antiphon is repeated.*

**READINGS**

**OLD TESTAMENT**

*1 Samuel 25:18–28, 32–33*

<sup>18</sup>Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves and two skins of wine and five sheep already prepared and five seahs of parched grain and a hundred clusters of raisins and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on donkeys. <sup>19</sup>And she said to her young men, “Go on before me; behold, I come after you.” But she did not tell her husband Nabal. <sup>20</sup>And as she rode on the donkey and came down under cover of the mountain, behold, David and his men came down toward her, and she met them. <sup>21</sup>Now David had said, “Surely in vain have I guarded all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belonged to him, and he has returned me evil for good. <sup>22</sup>God do so to the enemies of David and more also, if by morning I leave so much as one male of all who belong to him.”

<sup>23</sup>When Abigail saw David, she hurried and got down from the donkey and fell before David on her face and bowed to the ground. <sup>24</sup>She fell at his feet and said, “On me alone, my lord, be the guilt. Please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant. <sup>25</sup>Let not my lord regard this worthless fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he. Nabal is his name, and folly is with him. But I your servant did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent. <sup>26</sup>Now then, my lord, as the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, because the LORD has restrained you from bloodguilt and from saving with your own hand, now then let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be as Nabal. <sup>27</sup>And now let this present that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord. <sup>28</sup>Please forgive the trespass of your servant. For the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the LORD, and evil shall not be found in you so long as you live. . . .

<sup>32</sup>And David said to Abigail, “Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! <sup>33</sup>Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodguilt and from avenging myself with my own hand!

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE**

*Romans 5:18–21*

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup>For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one Man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. <sup>20</sup>Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, <sup>21</sup>so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*Matthew 18:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” <sup>2</sup>And calling to Him a child, He put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, “**Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.** <sup>4</sup>**Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.** <sup>5</sup>**Whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me,** <sup>6</sup>**but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.** <sup>7</sup>**Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes!”**

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**OFFICE HYMN: “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”**

*LSB 843*

1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,”  
 2 How can Your par - don reach and bless  
 3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals  
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls

You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can  
 The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and  
 The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are  
 And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in

grant us grace To live the words we say.  
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
 owed to us, How great our debt to You!  
 bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

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## MEDITATION ON THE PSALM

## PRAYER

LSB 285

*Kneel or Stand*

### KYRIE

Mark 10:47

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| <b>P</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> have mercy. |
| <b>P</b> O Christ, | <b>C</b> have mercy. |
| <b>P</b> O Lord,   | <b>C</b> have mercy. |

### LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

- C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### APOSTLE'S CREED

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.

### VERSICLES

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| <b>P</b> Hear my prayer, O Lord;                   |                      |
| <b>C</b> let my cry come to You.                   | <i>Psalm 102:1</i>   |
| <b>P</b> In the day of my trouble I call upon You, |                      |
| <b>C</b> for You answer me.                        | <i>Psalm 86:7</i>    |
| <b>P</b> Hide Your face from my sins,              |                      |
| <b>C</b> and blot out all my iniquities.           |                      |
| <b>P</b> Create in me a clean heart, O God,        |                      |
| <b>C</b> and renew a right spirit within me.       |                      |
| <b>P</b> Cast me not away from Your presence,      |                      |
| <b>C</b> and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.    |                      |
| <b>P</b> Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,  |                      |
| <b>C</b> and uphold me with a willing spirit.      | <i>Psalm 51:9–12</i> |

**P** Because Your steadfast love is better than life,  
**C** **my lips will praise You.**

**P** For You have been my help,  
**C** **and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.**

*Psalm 63:3, 7*

**P** Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;  
**C** **unite my heart to fear Your name.**

**P** I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,  
**C** **and I will glorify Your name forever.**

*Psalm 86:11–12*

**P** May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.  
**C** **May those who love Your salvation say evermore, “God is great!”**

*Psalm 70:4*

**P** Save Your people and bless Your heritage!  
**C** **Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

*Psalm 28:9*

**P** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;  
**C** **listen to my plea for grace.**

*Psalm 86:6*

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER

**C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

*Stand*

### BENEDICAMUS and BLESSING

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

*[Psalm 103:1]*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**C** **Amen.**

**✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠**  
**(TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)**