

Daily Devotional Guide

Verse of the Week: “Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!” (Psalm 130:1 NRSV).

Daily Prayer - Collect for the 6th Sunday of Eastertide:

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.

Daily Readings: This week we begin turning our attention to the daily readings from the Lectionary. Last Thursday was Ascension Day (which can also be celebrated this Sunday), with Scriptures associated with the ascension of Jesus to the right hand of the Father. Note the focus this week on two Psalms in particular: Psalm 99 and Psalm 33. Engaging the same Psalm on multiple days allows an opportunity to experience the Word in the Psalm from multiple angles. The Old and New Testament lessons for this week focus on the connection between Jesus’s ascension as the basis for his authority in giving the law of God, much like Moses did in the wilderness. See Daniel 7 for an even more explicit connection between the ascension of the Son of Man and his authority. The texts also lead us to the celebration of Pentecost next Sunday.

Monday, May 25: Psalm 99; Leviticus 9:1-11; 22-24; 1 Peter 4:1-6

Tuesday, May 26: Psalm 99; Numbers 16:41-50; 1 Peter 4:7-11

Wednesday, May 27: Psalm 99; 1 Kings 8:54-65; John 3:31-36

Thursday, May 28: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:1-9a; Acts 2:1-11

Friday, May 29: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:16-25; Romans 8:14-17

Saturday, May 30: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 5:1-12

Lectionary Texts for Sunday, May 31 (Pentecost Sunday)

Acts 2:1-21; Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34; 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23

Questions for Reflection/Journaling/Discussion:

1. How did you respond to this week’s message? What insights and questions did it raise for you?
2. You can read the full account of John Wesley’s Aldersgate experience at <https://christianhistoryinstitute.org/magazine/article/john-wesley-journal>. How does Wesley’s experience match your own “dark night of the soul?”
3. Read Psalm 130 again out loud. What hope does this Psalm speak for you?
4. This week we begin using the lectionary daily and weekly. The daily rhythm of prayer and Scripture reading was the foundation of Wesley’s personal revival. Will you commit to a regular rhythm of Scripture and prayer morning and evening as a way of sparking your own personal revival? Why or why not?
5. Describe your own experience of having your heart “strangely warmed.” If you have yet to experience that kind of closeness and assurance of faith in Christ, how will you put yourself in a place to draw closer to him?
6. This week’s texts on the Ascension of Jesus and his authority to give the law of God invite us to consider who has authority in your life. What sources of news, information, or way of living have authority in your decision-making. How do those sources compare and contrast with the authority of Christ?

Intercessory Prayer Guide:

Monday -Pray for all those who are struggling in a time of darkness

Tuesday - Pray for the eradication of the coronavirus.

Wednesday - Pray for revival for yourself, the church, and the world.

Thursday - Pray for those who are sick and grieving.

Friday - Pray for a fresh movement of God’s Spirit as the church looks to gather again.

Saturday Pray for those who will join our online worship services tomorrow.