

DEVOTION FOR THE MONDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Psalm 119:41-48

Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord, your salvation according to your promise;

Then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me, for I trust in your word.

And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your rules.

I will keep your law continually, forever and ever; and I shall walk in a wide place, for I have sought your precepts.

I will also speak of your testimonies before kings and shall not be put to shame,

For I find delight in your commandments, which I love.

I will lift up my hands towards your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.

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

Old Testament Reading: Numbers 22:1-41 *Balaam paid to curse Israel*

New Testament Reading: Acts 2:1-47 *The day of Pentecost*

“THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT”

Acts 2:21

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Pentecost is sometimes described as the birthday of the Christian Church. But long before Pentecost, Jesus had gathered a faithful following; women and men, who accompanied Him from Galilee and Judea, to Jerusalem. Before He ascended into heaven, He instructed the leaders of the Church to return to Jerusalem and wait until they were “*clothed with power from on high.*” They would be witnesses of His dying and rising. They and the church, would proclaim salvation through faith in His Name.

On the morning of Pentecost the company of believers, about 120 in number, were gathered for prayer. What began was not the Church, but the Church’s public witness to Jesus and its work of calling people from every nation under heaven to repent, turn to God through faith in Christ, so that their sins would be washed away. The work that began on Pentecost continues to this day in this place and throughout the world; the work of declaring the wonders of God in Christ Jesus and the promise that “*Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*”

We may think of Pentecost as the birth of the Church, speaking in tongues and the coming of the Holy Spirit. But, Pentecost isn’t really about the church, speaking in tongues, or even the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is about Jesus! Pentecost is the Holy Spirit speaking through the Church to proclaim the Name of Jesus, as the only name given under heaven, by which we must be saved. Pentecost is the Holy Spirit testifying to the world through the voice of the Church that by virtue of His cross, Jesus is the Saviour of all people, especially of those who believe.

Pentecost is the Holy Spirit calling to the world through voice of the Church in every language under heaven, to turn to God in repentance in the assurance that “*everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*” We pray God to bless us with the Holy Spirit, so that we may open our mouths to praise the name of Jesus and to proclaim Him as Saviour, telling all who will listen that “*everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*” In Jesus’ Name.

“LIFT HIGH THE CROSS” CCLI #4536181

Refrain

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim,
‘till all the world adore His sacred Name**

**Come, Christians follow where our captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ the Son of God. Refrain**

**Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conquering ranks combine. Refrain**

**All new born soldiers of the Crucified,
Bear on their brows, the seal of Him who died. Refrain**

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain**

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, you manifested your presence in signs and wonders, on the great day of Christian Pentecost. You empowered and impelled the church in Jerusalem to proclaim the wonders of God, the Name of Jesus and the good news that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord Jesus, will be saved. Open our hearts to your inspiration and open our lips to proclaim Jesus as Saviour, so that others may come to faith and know Him as Saviour. In Jesus’ Name. Amen

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

THE CREED

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 everlasting. Amen

BENEDICTION

Joel 3:16

**“The Lord roars from Zion, and utters His voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth quake.
But the Lord is a refuge to His people, a stronghold to the people of Israel.”**