

Daily Devotions for April 27 – May 3, 2025

Weekly Bible Memory Verse

John 3:5

⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Weekly Hymn: 594 GOD’S OWN CHILD, I GLADLY SAY IT

- 1 God’s own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth’s treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!

- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus’ cleansing sacrifice.

Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!

4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.

5 There is nothing worth comparing
 To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
 Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
 I am baptized into Christ;
 I'm a child of paradise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957

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Weekly Catechism: HOLY BAPTISM - SECOND

What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark:

“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:16)

We pray for others and for ourselves:

✝ We pray for all those facing health problems: Darlene F, Jerry Babb, Sherry, Jerry and Claudia Bullock, Joan C, Jan's business colleague Brian (hearing), Jan's friend Helen and her sister Margaret, Eric, Carol Meyer, Marilyn L's sister Cathy and husband Jerry – ongoing health concerns, Traci W's dad Lee – on hospice, Rod – friend at Haven Homes, Pastor Evans.

✝ For all with cancer: Colleen's niece Karen, Jerry Babb's brother-in-law Ron, Karl, Jim M' neighbor John and his brother in law Dean (stage 1), Dick's friend Jim, Don & Sandi's friend Jan Carr, Pat, Mary S., Thelma (resident at Stone Bay where Jerry Bullock is), 7-year old son of friends of Jan – may he and his family rely on God in a difficult and probably long-term situation.

✝ For Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Minnetonka that God will soon provide a pastor for them.

✝ That the resurrection power of Jesus will fill us with joy and courage to speak and live His Word every day

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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