

Below is a summary of the scripture readings from this week. Take a moment to reflect upon what you read or catch up on any chapters you may have missed. Give thanks because the Lord of the Sabbath invites you to enter into his rest.

Collect

Almighty God, who after the creation of the world rested from all his works and sanctified a day of rest for all his creatures: Grant that we, putting away all earthly anxieties, may be duly prepared for the service of your sanctuary, and that our rest here upon earth may be a preparation for the eternal rest promised to your people in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP 99)

Praying the Psalms

Psalm 1

for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.(v.6)

Psalm 2

Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.(v.12)

Psalm 3

But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.(v.3)

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer! (v.1)

Psalm 5

But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you. - Psalm (v.7)

Psalm 6

The LORD has heard my plea; the LORD accepts my prayer. - Psalm (v.9)

New Testament Reading

Matthew 1

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. (v.18)

Matthew 2

And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. (v.11)

Matthew 3

a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (v.17)

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (v.1)

Genesis 2

So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation. (v.3)

Genesis 3

So... she took of its fruit and ate,...and he ate.(v.6)...Then the eyes of both were opened (v.7),..."I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." (v.15)

Prayer of Intercession

Pray for our worship at Christ Covenant and the other churches in our community – for:

- A movement of the gospel that enables all kinds of people in all kinds of circumstances to draw near to God's throne of grace to worship in spirit and truth.
- A movement of the gospel that renews the hearts of believers through repentance and faith.
- A movement of the gospel that unites and encourages believers for works of love by faith.
- A movement of the gospel that observes the sacraments by faith.
- A movement of the gospel that prays God's word.
- A movement of the gospel that sings so that Christ dwells in the hearts of believers by faith.
- A movement of the gospel that brings all kinds of people in all kinds of circumstances into Christ as their rest.

Wonder what your next step in spiritual formation is? Consider getting involved in a Growth Group.

For a handy guide to the devotional elements and an archive of past issues, visit ccotc.org/devotional.