

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalm 146

*The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.* (v8)

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, & bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- Hebrews 9:24-28

<sup>24</sup> Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup> Nor was it to offer himself again & again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup> for then he would have had to suffer again & again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, & after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup> so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

## LISTENING TO . . .

**GOD-** *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Our readings the last few weeks of the church year turn toward Jesus' return to judge the living and the dead. What in each of today's lessons points that direction?
2. Read *John 19:30*. Jesus' sacrifice is once for all & finished/completed, not a constantly repeated sacrifice (cf. Roman Catholicism); IOW Jesus' doesn't die over & over again (vv25-27). What encouragement does this bring- that all your sins are completely covered by his once for all sacrifice, not merely the ones "up to this point" while others wait for a future sacrifice? What encouragement do you find that Jesus intercedes (prays) for you always? See *John 17:20-26*; *Romans 8:34*; *1 Timothy 2:5*; *Hebrews 4:14-16, 7:25*; *1 John 2:1*

**EACH OTHER-** *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. v24 refers to the Temple & Tabernacle as "copies" or models of heaven. This same logic applies to modern church buildings. How do you see your church building as a "model" of worship in heaven? See [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tabernacle#Description](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tabernacle#Description) [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solomon's\\_Temple#Architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solomon's_Temple#Architecture)
4. Religious systems are capable of exploiting people's goodwill & earnest desire to do the right things such that people will suffer harm (*not necessarily physical violence*) to themselves or others around them (cf. vv40, 43-44), cults being one example. Where have you witnessed this phenomenon? How does the "baptized member" (*vis-à-vis* regular & frequent participant) system do this? See *John 8:31-59*; *Acts 5:1-11*; *2 Timothy 4:14-15*; *Revelation 2:1--3:2*

**NEIGHBORS-** *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. What other predatory structures/institutions etc. cause suffering by unjustly swallowing-up people's livelihoods while the world goes by without noticing (cf. *Mark 12:40, 42*)? *Perhaps student loans, FICO scoring, medical bills, or failing criminal background checks, to get you started thinking.* How can you help these exploited neighbors & recover their livelihoods? See [Small Catechism](https://bookofconcord.org) 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment, available [bookofconcord.org](https://bookofconcord.org)
6. Building on #1, how can you make the case to people close to you that repentance is needed as we move ever closer to Jesus' promised judgment day? See *Matthew 5:16*; *2 Corinthians 5:7*

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](https://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

11.10.24

Series: Redemption

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

*The same yesterday, & today, & forever*

Suffering

*Jesus suffers once for all, redeeming even our own suffering*

-Notes-

**KEY VERSE:** For then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. (v26)

---

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

The Lord raises up the poor from the dust,  
to make them inherit a seat of honor. (*1 Samuel 2:8*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalm 146

*The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.* (v8)

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, & bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- Hebrews 9:24-28

<sup>24</sup> Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup> Nor was it to offer himself again & again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup> for then he would have had to suffer again & again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, & after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup> so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

## LISTENING TO . . .

**GOD-** *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Our readings the last few weeks of the church year turn toward Jesus' return to judge the living and the dead. What in each of today's lessons points that direction?
2. Read *John 19:30*. Jesus' sacrifice is once for all & finished/completed, not a constantly repeated sacrifice (cf. Roman Catholicism); IOW Jesus' doesn't die over & over again (vv25-27). What encouragement does this bring- that all your sins are completely covered by his once for all sacrifice, not merely the ones "up to this point" while others wait for a future sacrifice? What encouragement do you find that Jesus intercedes (prays) for you always? See *John 17:20-26*; *Romans 8:34*; *1 Timothy 2:5*; *Hebrews 4:14-16, 7:25*; *1 John 2:1*

**EACH OTHER-** *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. v24 refers to the Temple & Tabernacle as "copies" or models of heaven. This same logic applies to modern church buildings. How do you see your church building as a "model" of worship in heaven? See [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tabernacle#Description](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tabernacle#Description) [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solomon's\\_Temple#Architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solomon's_Temple#Architecture)
4. Religious systems are capable of exploiting people's goodwill & earnest desire to do the right things such that people will suffer harm (*not necessarily physical violence*) to themselves or others around them (cf. vv40, 43-44), cults being one example. Where have you witnessed this phenomenon? How does the "baptized member" (*vis-à-vis* regular & frequent participant) system do this? See *John 8:31-59*; *Acts 5:1-11*; *2 Timothy 4:14-15*; *Revelation 2:1--3:2*

**NEIGHBORS-** *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. What other predatory structures/institutions etc. cause suffering by unjustly swallowing-up people's livelihoods while the world goes by without noticing (cf. *Mark 12:40, 42*)? *Perhaps student loans, FICO scoring, medical bills, or failing criminal background checks, to get you started thinking.* How can you help these exploited neighbors & recover their livelihoods? See [Small Catechism](https://bookofconcord.org) 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment, available [bookofconcord.org](https://bookofconcord.org)
6. Building on #1, how can you make the case to people close to you that repentance is needed as we move ever closer to Jesus' promised judgment day? See *Matthew 5:16*; *2 Corinthians 5:7*

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](https://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

11.10.24

Series: Redemption

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

*The same yesterday, & today, & forever*

Suffering

*Jesus suffers once for all, redeeming even our own suffering*

-Notes-

**KEY VERSE:** For then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. (v26)

---

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

The Lord raises up the poor from the dust,  
to make them inherit a seat of honor. (*1 Samuel 2:8*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)