

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

Dear Family in Christ,

First Cup is designed to assist you in the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. The name is to remind you that as you reach for your first cup of morning coffee or tea, reach also for your Bible and prayer list. The prayers at the beginning of each week are taken from hymns, sometimes found in obscure hymnals in my library. They are intended to be read as your beginning prayer, to focus your mind on the daily readings that follow. May this spiritual discipline strengthen you as you face each day.

Blessings and love in Christ.

Sandy Sturch

1 Luke 17:20-37; Genesis 7:6-24, 19:1-28; I Thessalonians 1-2; Revelation 6:15-17

New every morning is the love our wakening and uprising prove; thru sleep and darkness safely brought, restored to life and power and thought. New mercies, each returning day, hover around us while we pray; new perils past, new sins forgiven, new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven. If, on our daily course, our mind be set to hallow all we find, new treasures still, of countless price, God will provide for sacrifice. Only, O Lord, in Thy dear love, fit us for perfect rest above, and help us, this and every day, to live more nearly as we pray. Amen. (The Hymnbook, No. 45)

- 2 Deut. 14:28-29; Isaiah 1:16-17; Luke 18:1-8; Isaiah 58
- 3 Luke 18:9-14; Matthew 18:1-14, 23:1-12; 2 Timothy 3:10-17; Proverbs 22:6
- 4 Luke 18:15-17; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 John 2:28-3:10
- 5 Luke 18:18-30; Ex. 20:1-17; Job 34:16-19; 1 Peter 1:3-9
- 6 Luke 18:31-34; Ps. 41:9, 22:16-18; Isaiah 53; Ps. 16:9-10
- 7 Luke 18:35-43; John 9; Psalm 146
- 8 Psalm 14; Mark 2:13-17; Luke 19:1-10; Proverbs 8:17; Jeremiah 29:13; Isaiah 55

My Father is rich in houses and lands; He holdeth the wealth of the world in His hands! Of rubies and diamonds, of silver and gold, His coffers are full—He has riches untold. My Father's own Son, the Saviour of men, once wandered o'er earth as the poorest of them; but now He is reigning forever on high, and will give me a home in heav'n by and by. A tent or a cottage, why should I care? They're building a palace for me over there! Tho' exiled from home, yet still I may sing: "All glory to God, I'm a child of the King!" (Worship in Song, No. 377)

- 9 Luke 19:11-27; Proverbs 27:18; Matthew 25:31-46
- 10 Luke 19:28-44; Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Zechariah 2, 9:9
- 11 Luke 19:45-48; John 2:13-22; I Cori. 3:16-17, 6:19-20; Ephesians 2
- 12 Psalm 118; Luke 20:1-19; Acts 4:1-12; I Peter 2:1-10
- 13 Luke 20:20-26; Rom. 13; Col. 3:12-14; 1 Peter 5:5-12
- 14 Luke 20:27-40; John 11:1-45; Romans 6:8-14; 1 Corinthians 15:20-58
- 15 Malachi 2:1-9; Matt. 23; Luke 20:41-47; 1 Peter 5:1-4

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt, Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt! Dark is the stain that

we cannot hide. What can avail to wash it away? Look! There is flowing a crimson tide; Whiter than snow you may be today. Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, Freely bestowed on all who believe! You that are longing to see His face, will you this moment His grace receive? Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within! Grace that is greater than all our sin! (Worship in Song, No. 213)

- 16 Luke 21:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15, 9:6-15; 1 Kings 17:1-16; Proverbs 3:27-28
- 17 Luke 21:5-38; 2 Timothy 3; 2 Peter 3
- 18 Luke 22:1-6; Matthew 26:1-16; Matthew 10
- 19 Luke 22:7-71; John 13:13-38; Titus 1:10-16; Jude 3-4; 1 John 2:20-23
- 20 Matthew 27:1-56; Luke 23; John 19
- 21 Matthew 28:1-15; Luke 24:1-53; 1 Corinthians 4
- 22 Romans 1; Leviticus 18; Psalm 106

Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine; Word of God, and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight. Holy Spirit, love divine, glow within this heart of mine; Kindle every high desire; perish self in Thy pure fire. Holy Spirit, power divine, fill and nerve this will of mine; By Thee may I strongly live, bravely bear, and nobly strive. Holy Spirit, right divine, make my conscience wholly Thine; Be my law, and I shall be firmly bound, forever free. (The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 321)

- 23 Romans 2; James 1:19-25; Matthew 7:1-5
- 24 Romans 3; Psalm 14; 5; Ephesians 1:3-14
- 25 Romans 4; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 6:28-40
- 26 Romans 5:1-11; Colossians 1:21-23; 1 Peter 4:12-19; James 5:10-11
- 27 Romans 5:12-6:23; Eph. 1:3-10; 1 Thess. 3:11-4:8
- 28 Romans 7; 2 Sam. 11; Mark 14:26-38; 51-71; Psalm 32
- 29 Romans 8:1-17; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; Isaiah 25:6-9; 1 Cor. 15:35-58

A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify; a never dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky. To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill; Oh, may it all my pow'rs engage to do my Master's will! Arm me with jealous care, as in Thy sight to live; and, oh, Thy servant, Lord, prepare a strict account to give! Help me to watch and pray, and on Thyself rely, assured if I my trust betray I shall forever die. (Worship in Song, No. 190)

30 Romans 8:18-39; Deut. 31:6; Joshua 1:5; Psalm 118