

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death...

We pray for others and for ourselves

- ✝ We pray for all those facing health problems: Shirley K, Darlene F, Crystal, Hawk's friend Todd, Jerry Bullock, Joan C, Jan's business colleague Brian (hearing), Jan's friend Joe, Jan's friend Helen and her sister Margaret, and for her friend Don who was badly injured in a fall from a ladder.
- ✝ Give thanks that Claudia and Kathy are home after their hospitalizations.
- ✝ For all with cancer: Colleen's niece Karen, Jerry B, Jerry's brother-in-law Ron, Harriet's brother Jerry, Karl, Jim M' neighbor John, Dick's friend Jim

***DAILY DEVOTIONS for December 29 –
January 4, 2025***

Daily Devotions are essential for a healthy faith life. The head of the household should lead daily prayer with all the members of the household whenever possible. If you live alone, think of someone you could invite to join you, either in person or on the phone. Resources for Daily Devotions are found on pages 294-330 in the hymnal. (You may borrow a hymnal from the church or ask about ordering hymnal(s) for yourself and others.) We also have free copies of Portals of Prayer with devotions for every day. Every person is encouraged to learn, pray, and yes, *memorize* a hymn, a Bible verse, and a selection from the Catechism each week. Pastor Mike would be glad to visit you to help you begin or improve your practice of Daily Devotions.

***WEEKLY HYMN: #425 WHEN I SURVEY THE
WONDROUS CROSS***

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,

My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Text: Public domain

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

Romans 5:8

⁸God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

*WEEKLY CATECHISM: THE SECOND ARTICLE
- Redemption*

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.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,