

### Colossians 3:16

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
teaching and admonishing one another  
in all wisdom,  
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,  
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*



48 years ago today, January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court ruled on the case of Roe versus Wade giving woman the right to end the life of her child in the womb and rejected that the child had any right to life.

### Scripture

#### **Scriptures reflecting on the sanctity of all human life.**

*Genesis 1:27 God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

*Psalms 8:4-5 What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.*

*Psalms 127:3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.*

*Psalms 139:13-16 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.*

*Isaiah 44:2 Thus says the Lord who made you, who formed you from the womb and will help you: Fear not, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen.*

*Jeremiah 1:4-5 Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."*

*Matthew 18:1-6 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.*

*"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.*

**Matthew 19:13-15** *Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." And he laid his hands on them and went away.*

**Acts 17:24-26** *The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth.*

## **Song**

**Psalm 59:16** *But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.*

[You can Google the hymn to hear it if you would like to sing along.]

### ***God of Grace and God of Glory***

God of grace and God of glory,  
On your people pour your power;  
Crown your ancient church's story,  
Bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
Scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness;  
Bend our pride to your control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
Lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of your salvation  
Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Serving you whom we adore,  
Serving you whom we adore.

("God of Grace and God of Glory" words by Harry E. Fosdick and music by John Hughes, © 1969 Concordia Publishing House, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

## Prayer

*II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

Almighty God, have mercy on us as a nation and turn aside your wrath against us. We have shed innocent blood because we do not trust you and do not fear you. Almighty Father, convict our hearts of this great wickedness that threatens the very soul of our nation. Give us a great love and compassion for the littlest ones among us, especially those in their mother's wombs. Change the hearts of Christians everywhere to no longer be silent and passive. Jesus, you conquered death on the cross and delivered us from death, come now and conquer this death and deliver us until there is life, liberty and justice, not just for some, but for all. I pray for those who have had abortions that you silence the lies of Satan that there is no forgiveness or relief from guilt. This morning break down those barriers to your love and forgiveness. You died to set us free from all our sins.

Finally, Father, I pray for your blessing upon all the families of our church, upon those with children still in the home, and also on those who desire children and are waiting on you. And for those who desire to be married that they might have a family. Father, hear their prayers and answer according to your best wisdom and will and give us patience as we wait on you. Come, Holy Spirit, come, have mercy and help us we pray. In the strong name of Jesus. Amen.

Devotional written by Pastor Robert Woodyard

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