

# Morning Prayer Readings

## October 18th – 22nd, 2021 Year 1 Proper 24

### Monday (October 18th) Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist

**Please note the changes to the Canticles for the Feast Day. They will be given below.**

Please turn to page **733**. We will say Psalms **103** together.

#### **Psalm 103** *Benedic, anima mea*

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.
- 3 He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The LORD executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.  
14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
he remembers that we are but dust.  
15 Our days are like the grass; \*  
we flourish like a flower of the field;  
16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \*  
and its place shall know it no more.  
17 But the merciful goodness of the LORD endures for ever on those who  
fear him, \*  
and his righteousness on children's children;  
18 On those who keep his covenant \*  
and remember his commandments and do them.  
19 The LORD has set his throne in heaven, \*  
and his kingship has dominion over all.  
20 Bless the LORD, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*  
and hearken to the voice of his word.  
21 Bless the LORD, all you his hosts, \*  
you ministers of his who do his will.  
22 Bless the LORD, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion; \*  
bless the LORD, O my soul.

***Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

**The first lesson is from [Ezekiel 47:1-12](#)**

A reading from Ezekiel 47:1-12

Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there, water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east); and the water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar. Then he brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east; and the water was coming out on the south side. Going on eastward with a

cord in his hand, the man measured one thousand cubits, and then led me through the water; and it was ankle-deep. Again he measured one thousand, and led me through the water; and it was knee-deep. Again he measured one thousand, and led me through the water; and it was up to the waist. Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross, for the water had risen; it was deep enough to swim in, a river that could not be crossed. He said to me, "Mortal, have you seen this?" Then he led me back along the bank of the river. As I came back, I saw on the bank of the river a great many trees on the one side and on the other. He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah; and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes. People will stand fishing beside the sea from En-gedi to En-eglaim; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing."

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Please turn to page 92.

We'll say **Canticle 16, The Song of Zechariah** together

**THERE IS ONLY ONE READING FOR THE FEAST OF ST. LUKE FOLLOWED BY THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE –**

## **HOWEVER THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL CANTICLE AFTER THE LUKE READING**

**The second lesson is from: [Luke 1: 1-4](#)**

A reading from Luke 1:1-4

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

Please turn to page 95.

We'll say **Canticle 21, You Are God** together

**You are God** *Te Deum laudamus*

You are God: we praise you;

You are the Lord; we acclaim you;

You are the eternal Father:

All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,

Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;

Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you became man to set us free  
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come and be our judge.  
Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, who inspired your servant Luke the physician to set forth in the Gospel the love and healing power of your Son: Graciously continue in your Church this love and power to heal, to the praise and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## Tuesday (October 19th)

Please turn to page **616**. We will say Psalms **26 and 28** together.

### **Psalm 26** *Judica me, Domine*

- 1 Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; \*  
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- 2 Test me, O LORD, and try me; \*  
examine my heart and my mind.
- 3 For your love is before my eyes; \*  
I have walked faithfully with you.
- 4 I have not sat with the worthless, \*  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.
- 5 I have hated the company of evildoers; \*  
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, \*  
that I may go in procession round your altar,
- 7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving \*  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 LORD, I love the house in which you dwell \*  
and the place where your glory abides.
- 9 Do not sweep me away with sinners, \*  
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,
- 10 Whose hands are full of evil plots, \*  
and their right hand full of bribes.
- 11 As for me, I will live with integrity; \*  
redeem me, O LORD, and have pity on me.
- 12 My foot stands on level ground; \*  
in the full assembly I will bless the LORD.

### **Psalm 28** *Ad te, Domine*

- 1 O LORD, I call to you; my Rock, do not be deaf to my cry; \*  
lest, if you do not hear me, I become like those who go down to the  
Pit.

<sup>2</sup> Hear the voice of my prayer when I cry out to you, \*  
when I lift up my hands to your holy of holies.

<sup>3</sup> Do not snatch me away with the wicked or with the evildoers, \*  
who speak peaceably with their neighbors, while strife is in their  
hearts.

<sup>4</sup> Repay them according to their deeds, \*  
and according to the wickedness of their actions.

<sup>5</sup> According to the work of their hands repay them, \*  
and give them their just deserts.

<sup>6</sup> They have no understanding of the LORD'S doings, nor of the  
works of his hands; \*  
therefore he will break them down and not build them up.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed is the LORD! \*  
for he has heard the voice of my prayer.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is my strength and my shield; \*  
my heart trusts in him, and I have been helped;

<sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart dances for joy, \*  
and in my song will I praise him.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD is the strength of his people, \*  
a safe refuge for his anointed.

<sup>11</sup> Save your people and bless your inheritance; \*  
shepherd them and carry them for ever.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

**The first lesson is from [Lamentations 1:1-12](#)**

**[Lamentations 1:1-12](#)**

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a  
widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She  
that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal. She  
weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her  
lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt

treacherously with her, they have become her enemies. Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the LORD has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe. From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer. Jerusalem remembers, in the days of her affliction and wandering, all the precious things that were hers in days of old. When her people fell into the hand of the foe, and there was no one to help her, the foe looked on mocking over her downfall. Jerusalem sinned grievously, so she has become a mockery; all who honored her despise her, for they have seen her nakedness; she herself groans, and turns her face away. Her uncleanness was in her skirts; she took no thought of her future; her downfall was appalling, with none to comfort her. "O LORD, look at my affliction, for the enemy has triumphed!" Enemies have stretched out their hands over all her precious things; she has even seen the nations invade her sanctuary, those whom you forbade to enter your congregation. All her people groan as they search for bread; they trade their treasures for food to revive their strength. Look, O LORD, and see how worthless I have become. Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the LORD inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

Please turn to page 90.

We'll say **Canticle 13, A Song of Praise** together

The second lesson is from **I Corinthians**

### **1 Corinthians 15:41-50**

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; indeed, star differs from star in glory. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being" the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

Please turn to page 93.

We'll say **Canticle 18, A Song to the Lamb** together

The third lesson is from **Matthew 10**

### **Matthew 11:25-30**

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Wednesday (October 20th)

Please turn to page **636**. We will say Psalm **38** together.

### **Psalm 38** *Domine, ne in furore*

- 1 O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger; \*  
do not punish me in your wrath.
- 2 For your arrows have already pierced me, \*  
and your hand presses hard upon me.
- 3 There is no health in my flesh, because of your indignation; \*  
there is no soundness in my body, because of my sin.
- 4 For my iniquities overwhelm me; \*  
like a heavy burden they are too much for me to bear.
- 5 My wounds stink and fester \*  
by reason of my foolishness.
- 6 I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; \*  
I go about in mourning all the day long.
- 7 My loins are filled with searing pain; \*  
there is no health in my body.
- 8 I am utterly numb and crushed; \*  
I wail, because of the groaning of my heart.
- 9 O Lord, you know all my desires, \*  
and my sighing is not hidden from you.
- 10 My heart is pounding, my strength has failed me, \*  
and the brightness of my eyes is gone from me.
- 11 My friends and companions draw back from my affliction; \*  
my neighbors stand afar off.
- 12 Those who seek after my life lay snares for me; \*  
those who strive to hurt me speak of my ruin and plot treachery all  
the day long.
- 13 But I am like the deaf who do not hear, \*  
like those who are mute and who do not open their mouth.
- 14 I have become like one who does not hear \*  
and from whose mouth comes no defense.

15 For in you, O LORD, have I fixed my hope; \*  
you will answer me, O Lord my God.

16 For I said, "Do not let them rejoice at my expense, \*  
those who gloat over me when my foot slips."

17 Truly, I am on the verge of falling, \*  
and my pain is always with me.

18 I will confess my iniquity \*  
and be sorry for my sin.

19 Those who are my enemies without cause are mighty, \*  
and many in number are those who wrongfully hate me.

20 Those who repay evil for good slander me, \*  
because I follow the course that is right.

21 O LORD, do not forsake me; \*  
be not far from me, O my God.

22 Make haste to help me, \*  
O Lord of my salvation.

***Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

**The first lesson is from [Lamentations 2:8-15](#)**

### **[Lamentations 2:8-15](#)**

The LORD determined to lay in ruins the wall of daughter Zion; he stretched the line; he did not withhold his hand from destroying; he caused rampart and wall to lament; they languish together. Her gates have sunk into the ground; he has ruined and broken her bars; her king and princes are among the nations; guidance is no more, and her prophets obtain no vision from the LORD. The elders of daughter Zion sit on the ground in silence; they have thrown dust on their heads and put on sackcloth; the young girls of Jerusalem have bowed their heads to the ground. My eyes are spent with weeping; my stomach churns; my bile is poured out on the ground because of the

destruction of my people, because infants and babes faint in the streets of the city. They cry to their mothers, "Where is bread and wine?" as they faint like the wounded in the streets of the city, as their life is poured out on their mothers' bosom. What can I say for you, to what compare you, O daughter Jerusalem? To what can I liken you, that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter Zion? For vast as the sea is your ruin; who can heal you? Your prophets have seen for you false and deceptive visions; they have not exposed your iniquity to restore your fortunes, but have seen oracles for you that are false and misleading. All who pass along the way clap their hands at you; they hiss and wag their heads at daughter Jerusalem; "Is this the city that was called the perfection of beauty, the joy of all the earth?"

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Please turn to page 87.

We'll say **Canticle 11, The Third Song of Isaiah** together

The second lesson is from **1 Corinthians**

### **1 Corinthians 15:51-58**

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of

death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Please turn to page 92.

We'll say **Canticle 16, The Song of Zechariah** together

The third lesson is from **Matthew 12**

### **Matthew 12:1-14**

At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the sabbath; his disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. When the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, "Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the sabbath." He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him or his companions to eat, but only for the priests. Or have you not read in the law that on the sabbath the priests in the temple break the sabbath and yet are guiltless? I tell you, something greater than the temple is here. But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. For the Son of Man is lord of the sabbath." He left that place and entered their synagogue; a man was there with a withered hand, and they asked him, "Is it lawful to cure on the sabbath?" so that they might accuse him. He said to them, "Suppose one of you has only one sheep and it falls into a pit on the sabbath; will you not lay hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a human being than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the sabbath." Then he said to the man, "Stretch

out your hand." He stretched it out, and it was restored, as sound as the other. But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Thursday (October 21st)

Please turn to page **633** We will say Psalm **37:1-18** together.

### Psalm 37: Part I *Noli aemulari*

- <sup>1</sup> Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; \*  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- <sup>2</sup> For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*  
and like the green grass fade away.
- <sup>3</sup> Put your trust in the LORD and do good; \*  
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- <sup>4</sup> Take delight in the LORD, \*  
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, \*  
and he will bring it to pass.
- <sup>6</sup> He will make your righteousness as clear as the light \*  
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- <sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD \*  
and wait patiently for him.
- <sup>8</sup> Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, \*  
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- <sup>9</sup> Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; \*  
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- <sup>10</sup> For evildoers shall be cut off, \*  
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
- <sup>11</sup> In a little while the wicked shall be no more; \*  
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- <sup>12</sup> But the lowly shall possess the land; \*  
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- <sup>13</sup> The wicked plot against the righteous \*  
and gnash at them with their teeth.
- <sup>14</sup> The Lord laughs at the wicked, \*  
because he sees that their day will come.

15 The wicked draw their sword and bend their bow to strike down the poor and needy, \*

to slaughter those who are upright in their ways.

16 Their sword shall go through their own heart, \*  
and their bow shall be broken.

17 The little that the righteous has \*  
is better than great riches of the wicked.

18 For the power of the wicked shall be broken, \*  
but the LORD upholds the righteous.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

**The first lesson is from [Ezra 1:1-11](#)**

**[Ezra 1:1-11](#)**

In the first year of King Cyrus of Persia, in order that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the LORD stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus of Persia so that he sent a herald throughout all his kingdom, and also in a written edict declared: "Thus says King Cyrus of Persia: The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of those among you who are of his people-- may their God be with them!-- are now permitted to go up to Jerusalem in Judah, and rebuild the house of the LORD, the God of Israel-- he is the God who is in Jerusalem; and let all survivors, in whatever place they reside, be assisted by the people of their place with silver and gold, with goods and with animals, besides freewill offerings for the house of God in Jerusalem." The heads of the families of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and the Levites-- everyone whose spirit God had stirred-- got ready to go up and rebuild the house of the LORD in Jerusalem. All their neighbors aided them with silver vessels, with gold, with goods, with animals,

and with valuable gifts, besides all that was freely offered. King Cyrus himself brought out the vessels of the house of the LORD that Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and placed in the house of his gods. King Cyrus of Persia had them released into the charge of Mithredath the treasurer, who counted them out to Sheshbazzar the prince of Judah. And this was the inventory: gold basins, thirty; silver basins, one thousand; knives, twenty-nine; gold bowls, thirty; other silver bowls, four hundred ten; other vessels, one thousand; the total of the gold and silver vessels was five thousand four hundred. All these Sheshbazzar brought up, when the exiles were brought up from Babylonia to Jerusalem.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Please turn to page 85.

We'll say **Canticle 8, The Song of Moses** together

The second lesson is from **1 Corinthians**

### **1 Corinthians 16:1-9**

Now concerning the collection for the saints: you should follow the directions I gave to the churches of Galatia. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn, so that collections need not be taken when I come. And when I arrive, I will send any whom you approve with letters to take your gift to Jerusalem. If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me. I will visit you after passing through Macedonia-- for I intend to pass through Macedonia-- and perhaps I will stay with you or even spend the winter, so that you may send me on my way, wherever I go. I do not want to see you now just in passing, for I

hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Please turn to page 94.

We'll say **Canticle 20, Glory to God** together

The third lesson is from **Matthew 12**

### **Matthew 12:15-21**

When Jesus became aware of this, he departed. Many crowds followed him, and he cured all of them, and he ordered them not to make him known. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets. He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smoldering wick until he brings justice to victory. And in his name the Gentiles will hope."

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Friday (October 22nd)

Please turn to page **622**. We will say Psalm **31** together.

### **Psalm 31** *In te, Domine, speravi*

<sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \*

deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> Incline your ear to me; \*

make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*

for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup> Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*

for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.

<sup>6</sup> I hate those who cling to worthless idols, \*  
and I put my trust in the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> I will rejoice and be glad because of your mercy; \*

for you have seen my affliction; you know my distress.

<sup>8</sup> You have not shut me up in the power of the enemy; \*  
you have set my feet in an open place.

<sup>9</sup> Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; \*

my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

<sup>10</sup> For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

<sup>11</sup> I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

<sup>12</sup> I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*  
I am as useless as a broken pot.

<sup>13</sup> For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; \*  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

<sup>14</sup> But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. \*

I have said, "You are my God.

<sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who  
persecute me.

<sup>16</sup> Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."

<sup>17</sup> LORD, let me not be ashamed for having called upon you; \*  
rather, let the wicked be put to shame; let them be silent in the grave.

<sup>18</sup> Let the lying lips be silenced which speak against the righteous, \*  
haughtily, disdainfully, and with contempt.

<sup>19</sup> How great is your goodness, O LORD! which you have laid up for  
those who fear you; \*  
which you have done in the sight of all for those who put their trust in  
you.

<sup>20</sup> You hide them in the covert of your presence from those who  
slander them; \*

you keep them in your shelter from the strife of tongues.

<sup>21</sup> Blessed be the LORD! \*

for he has shown me the wonders of his love in a besieged city.

<sup>22</sup> Yet I said in my alarm, "I have been cut off from the sight of your  
eyes." \*

Nevertheless, you heard the sound of my entreaty when I cried out to  
you.

<sup>23</sup> Love the LORD, all you who worship him; \*  
the LORD protects the faithful, but repays to the full those who act  
haughtily.

<sup>24</sup> Be strong and let your heart take courage, \*  
all you who wait for the LORD.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

**The first lesson is from [Ezra](#)**

**[Ezra 3:1-13](#)**

When the seventh month came, and the Israelites were in the towns, the people gathered together in Jerusalem. Then Jeshua son of Jozadak, with his fellow priests, and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel with his kin set out to build the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings on it, as prescribed in the law of Moses the man of God. They set up the altar on its foundation, because they were in dread of the neighboring peoples, and they offered burnt offerings upon it to the LORD, morning and evening. And they kept the festival of booths, as prescribed, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number according to the ordinance, as required for each day, and after that the regular burnt offerings, the offerings at the new moon and at all the sacred festivals of the LORD, and the offerings of everyone who made a freewill offering to the LORD. From the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD. But the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid. So they gave money to the masons and the carpenters, and food, drink, and oil to the Sidonians and the Tyrians to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea, to Joppa, according to the grant that they had from King Cyrus of Persia. In the second year after their arrival at the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua son of Jozadak made a beginning, together with the rest of their people, the priests and the Levites and all who had come to Jerusalem from the captivity. They appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to have the oversight of the work on the house of the LORD. And Jeshua with his sons and his kin, and

Kadmiel and his sons, Binnui and Hodaviah along with the sons of Henadad, the Levites, their sons and kin, together took charge of the workers in the house of God. When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments were stationed to praise the LORD with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, according to the directions of King David of Israel; and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel." And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid. But many of the priests and Levites and heads of families, old people who had seen the first house on its foundations, wept with a loud voice when they saw this house, though many shouted aloud for joy, so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping, for the people shouted so loudly that the sound was heard far away.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Please turn to page 86.

We'll say **Canticle 10, The Second Song of Isaiah** together

The second lesson is from **1 Corinthians**

### **1 Corinthians 16:10-24**

If Timothy comes, see that he has nothing to fear among you, for he is doing the work of the Lord just as I am; therefore let no one despise him. Send him on his way in peace, so that he may come to me; for I am expecting him with the brothers. Now concerning our brother Apollos, I strongly urged him to visit you with the other brothers, but he was not at all willing to come now. He will come

when he has the opportunity. Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brothers and sisters, you know that members of the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to put yourselves at the service of such people, and of everyone who works and toils with them. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. So give recognition to such persons. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, greet you warmly in the Lord. All the brothers and sisters send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Let anyone be accursed who has no love for the Lord. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with all of you in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

Please turn to page 93.

We'll say **Canticle 18, A Song to the Lamb** together

The third lesson is from **Matthew 12**

### **Matthew 12:22-32**

Then they brought to him a demoniac who was blind and mute; and he cured him, so that the one who had been mute could speak and see. All the crowds were amazed and said, "Can this be the Son of David?" But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons, that this fellow casts out the demons." He knew what they were thinking and said to them, "Every

kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? If I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own exorcists cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you. Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his property, without first tying up the strong man? Then indeed the house can be plundered. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

The word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Thank You**  
**Have a Blessed Weekend!**