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**Daily Prayer**  
**+ Thursday, March 19, 2020 +**

## **Invocation**

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: O Lord, open my lips,

**C: and my mouth will declare your praise.**

L: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C: make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**C: Glory be to Father and to the + Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

L: Praise to you, O Christ,

**C: Lamb of our salvation.**

## **Psalmody**

*Psalm 106:44-48*

L: Nevertheless, he looked upon their distress, when he heard their cry.

**C: For their sake he remembered his covenant,**

L: and relented according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

**C: He caused them to be pitied by all those who held them captive.**

L: Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the nations,

**C: that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.**

L: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!

**C: And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD!**

**C: Glory be to Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.**

**Amen.**

L: Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C: O come, let us worship him.**

**Hymn**

#726

[1] Evening and morning,  
Sunset and dawning,  
Wealth, peace, and gladness,  
Comfort in sadness:  
These are Thy works; all the glory be Thine!  
Times without number,  
Awake or in slumber,  
Thine eye observes us,  
From danger preserves us,  
Causing Thy mercy upon us to shine.

[2] Father, O hear me,  
Pardon and spare me;  
Calm all my terrors,  
Blot out my errors  
That by Thine eyes they may no more be scanned.  
Order my goings,  
Direct all my doings.  
As it may please Thee,  
Retain or release me;  
All I commit to Thy fatherly hand.

[3] Ills that still grieve me  
Soon are to leave me;  
Though billows tower  
And winds gain power,  
After the storm the fair sun shows its face.  
Joys e'er increasing  
And peace never ceasing;  
These shall I treasure  
And share in full measure  
When in His mansions God grants me a place.

[4] To God in heaven  
All praise be given!  
Come, let us offer  
And gladly proffer  
To the Creator the gifts He doth prize.  
He well receiveth  
A heart that believeth;  
Hymns that adore Him  
Are precious before Him  
And to His throne like sweet incense arise.

## **Reading**

**Mark 10:13-31**

*And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such*

*belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them. And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who*

*has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."*

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson**

Our reading today from the Gospel of Mark, Chapter 10, teaches on blessing. Blessing means "favor". To have someone's blessing is to have someone's favor. It means that they are on your side, that they hope good for you, that they pray you prosper and that things go well for you. To have someone's blessing is to have their approval and favor.

Today we need God's favor. Am I right? Yes, I am right.

Today we need God's favor. We need his blessing.

We are living in challenging times, when fear and uncertainty surround us. Our President and our Governor are concerned for our safety as a community and they are prescribing drastic measures to keep us safe. Our schools have been closed for one week and our church won't be having services for the next two Sundays. All to avoid

spreading a dangerous virus. This is scary stuff; especially for children. And although we are wise to follow the guidance of the government and take all precautions, now is not the time to give in to the temptation to fear or panic. There is no need to panic or fear.

God is still our Father. His Son Jesus Christ is still our Savior. The Holy Spirit is still among us. And although we might not be together for a few Sundays, our church is still our church.

And the blessing of God and of his Son Jesus Christ is still ours. We have God's blessing in Jesus Christ.

When the crowds brought their children to Jesus so that he might touch them and bless them, the disciples rebuked the crowds and told them that Jesus was too busy for them and had no interest in them. But it was not true. Jesus saw what the disciples were doing and he rebuked them and he invited the children to come close so that he could touch them and bless them.

He does the same for us today. Jesus invites us to come to him in our time of need and to receive his blessing. When we pray he hears us. He is our source of blessing and favor in a dangerous world and always will be.

So let us trust in Jesus during these difficult days. Amen.

## **Apostles' Creed**

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. 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. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayer**

**L: Lord, have mercy.**

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

**L: Lord, have mercy.**

**C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **Collects**

**L: Father in heaven, we give you thanks for the day that you have given to us and we pray that you would be near to**



us and help us. Deliver us from all calamity and danger. Drive away all harm. And may your favor and blessing be upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: Father, we pray this day for our church family and for all of our friends in the faith. We pray for our pastor and for our teachers. We pray for missionaries throughout the world and for all who serve in the church. Help us to live as your disciples and to keep the faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: O God, we pray for the forgiveness of sins and for a right spirit. Continue to lead us to repentance during this season of Lent and keep our eyes fixed on the cross; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: O God, you see that of ourselves we have no strength. By your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Blessing**

L: Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**C: Amen.**

## Hymn

# 729

- [1] I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;  
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.
- [2] I am trusting Thee for pardon; At Thy feet I bow,  
For Thy grace and tender mercy, Trusting now.
- [3] I am trusting Thee for cleansing, In the crimson flood;  
Trusting Thee who made me holy, By Thy blood.
- [4] I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,  
Ev'ry day and hour supplying, All my need.
- [5] I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me, Must prevail.
- [6] I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever, And for all.