



Daily Prayer
+ Monday, April 20, 2020 +

Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia.

Psalmody

Psalm 146

L: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

L: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

C: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

L: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

C: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

L: who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. 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.

Hymn

#474, v. 1-3

[1] Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

Trumpets resounding in glorious light!

Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!

Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Give God the glory! Alleluia!

[2] Walking the way, Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread, giving us glory;
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

[3] Jesus the vine, We are the branches;
Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth, Christ to the people,
Gift of the future now flowing to me.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Reading

Luke 4:16-30

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me

this proverb, "Physician, heal yourself." What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.'" And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson

In our reading today from Luke 4, Jesus reveals himself to be a prophet in line with the prophets of the Old Testament.

He calls himself a prophet and interprets his rejection in the city of Nazareth as a fulfillment of prophetic history:

"Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown." (Luke 4:24) He then compares himself to Elijah and Elisha, who also were prophets rejected by their own people.

Jesus is a prophet. And so, he is a teacher sent from God and a worker of miracles. More than that, Jesus is the Great Prophet, the final, end-time prophet of God, who must do what all of the prophets did before him: suffer for speaking for God.

As Jesus said, *"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"* (Luke 13:34)

And so Jesus is the suffering prophet. A prophet who preaches in the synagogue of his hometown that in him the Scriptures are being fulfilled.

The response of the people is doubt and criticism. They question his credentials. Who does Jesus think he is? *"Is not this Joseph's son?"* (Luke 4:22) Jesus is a local man. And so they put into question his authority to speak as a prophet of God. The people hear his preaching and rise up in wrath against him and drive him out of town.

So hot is their anger against him, Luke writes, that, *"they bring him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away."* (Luke 4:29-30)

Here we see a sign of what is coming for Jesus: the cross. He is the suffering prophet who will be rejected by Israel for preaching the Word of God. Yet that very rejection

will mean the salvation of mankind. And so Jesus is willing, like Elijah and Elisha before him, to faithfully serve God and to preach to the people, come what may.

The role of prophet is more than simply to preach for God and to perform miracles. The prophet is called to suffer as well. For we are hard of hearing and are inclined by sin to reject God's Word. It is our sinful nature to turn away prophets sent from God. This calls for repentance.

It is no surprise, then, when Jesus is rejected in Nazareth. It is a sign of things to come. Yet Jesus is faithful to his calling as prophet; even to the point of death. And so, all the more, we ought to listen to him. 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.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Collect

L: Lord God, heavenly Father, your Son announced in the synagogue of Nazareth that he was the long-expected Christ. Give us faith to see that in him the year of the Lord's favor is upon us; 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

474, v. 4-5

[4] Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent:
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!"
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

[5] City of God, Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life, saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the I AM!
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!