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**Daily Prayer**  
**+ Thursday, April 23, 2020 +**

## Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia.**

## Psalmody

*Psalm 119:25-32*

L: My soul clings to the dust; give me life according to your word!

**C: When I told of my ways, you answered me; teach me your statutes!**

L: Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

**C: My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word!**

L: Put false ways far from me and graciously teach me your law!

**C: I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your rules before me.**

L: I cling to your testimonies, O LORD; let me not be put to shame!

**C: I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!**

**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

#478

[1] The day of resurrection!  
Earth, tell it out abroad,  
The passover of gladness,  
The Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal,

From sin's dominion free,  
Our Christ has brought us over  
With hymns of victory.

[2] Our hearts be purged of evil  
That we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal  
Of resurrection light  
And, list'ning to His accents,  
May hear, so calm and plain,  
His own "All hail!" and, hearing,  
May raise the victor strain.

[3] Now let the heav'ns be joyful,  
Let earth her song begin.  
Let all the world keep triumph  
And all that is therein.  
Let all things, seen and unseen,  
Their notes of gladness blend;  
For Christ the Lord has risen;  
Our joy shall have no end!

[4] All praise to God the Father,  
All praise to God the Son,  
All praise to God the Spirit,  
Eternal Three in One!  
Let all the ransomed number  
Fall down before the throne  
And honor, pow'r, and glory  
Ascribe to God alone!

## Reading

**Luke 5:17-39**

*On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal. And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. And when he saw their faith, he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you." And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — he said to the man who was paralyzed— "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home." And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen extraordinary things today." After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, "Follow me." And leaving everything, he rose and followed him. And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, "Why do you*

*eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." And they said to him, "The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink." And Jesus said to them, "Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days." He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it on an old garment. If he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine desires new, for he says, 'The old is good.'"*

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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

In our reading today from Luke 5, Jesus compares the kingdom of God which he is bringing into the world with new wine offered for all at a wedding feast.

The old wine of the Old Testament covenant, stored in the old wineskins of the Old Testament ceremonial Law, are soon passing away. The new wine of the New Testament

covenant, stored in the New Testament Gospel and Sacraments, are soon being established.

In this parable, Jesus compares his coming into the world with the arrival of a bridegroom for his wedding. The bride in this analogy is the church and Christ has come to feast with his people in celebration, offering to many guests the new wine of the Gospel.

Yet, sadly, there are some in Israel who refuse to receive Jesus. These can be compared to those guests who are invited to the feast but who are already satisfied. They have attended many previous weddings and have no need for new wine. They prefer the old wine. They refuse to attend the wedding.

And so Jesus says: "*And no one after drinking old wine desires new, for he says, 'The old is good.'*" (Luke 5:39) It is human nature to become satisfied with life as it is; to be complacent; to lack an imagination for what could be.

Sadly, the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law are quite satisfied with the Old Testament Law and have no need for the new thing that God is bringing into the world through his Son.

But for those who are invited and who seek the feast that Jesus offers, the new wine of the Gospel is given to them. And their joy is complete. This is our joy in Jesus. May we rejoice in the new wine of the Gospel always. 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: O Lord, absolve your people from their offenses that from the bonds of our sins, which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by your bountiful goodness; 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**

**# 479**

[1] Christ is risen, Christ is living,  
Dry your tears, be unafraid!  
Death and darkness could not hold Him,  
Nor the tomb in which He lay.  
Do not look among the dead for  
One who lives forevermore;  
Tell the world that Christ is risen,  
Make it known He goes before.

[2] If the Lord had never risen,  
We'd have nothing to believe.  
But His promise can be trusted:  
"You will live, because I live."  
As we share the death of Adam,  
So in Christ we live again;  
Death has lost its sting and terror,  
Christ the Lord has come to reign.

[3] Death has lost its old dominion,  
Let the world rejoice and shout!  
Christ, the firstborn of the living,  
Gives us life and leads us out.  
Let us thank our God, who causes  
Hope to spring up from the ground;  
Christ is risen, Christ is giving  
Life eternal, life profound.