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**Daily Prayer**  
**+ Monday, June 1, 2020 +**

## Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

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

## Psalmody

*Psalm 115:1-9*

L: Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

**C: Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.**

L: Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

**C: They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see.**

L: They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell.

**C: They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat.**

L: Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

**C: O Israel, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.**

**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

**#496, v. 1-3**

[1] Holy Spirit, light divine,  
Shine upon this heart of mine;  
Chase the shades of night away,  
Turn the darkness into day.

[2] Let me see my Savior's face,  
Let me all His beauties trace;  
Show those glorious truths to me  
Which are only known to Thee.

[3] Holy Spirit, pow'r divine,  
Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;  
In Thy mercy pity me,  
From sin's bondage set me free.

### **Reading**

**Acts 9:31**

*And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. And he spoke and disputed against the Hellenists. But they were seeking to kill him. And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus. So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.*

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson**

The conversion of the Apostle Paul comes to a conclusion in our reading today from Acts 9.

Paul began his work of persecution against the church by witnessing the murder of Stephen at the hands of a riotous and raging mob. He added to this sin a search from house to house of believers to bring them under arrest to Jerusalem. So filled with hatred and opposition to Jesus and the church was Paul that he even traveled as far as Damascus for this purpose.

This opposition and hatred came to an abrupt end when Paul was confronted by Jesus himself on the road to Damascus where Paul was brought to his senses and converted to the faith he once preached against. He then began to immediately preach Jesus as Son of God and Christ. This led to his own persecution and his return to Jerusalem to face the apostles.

At first, the apostles were wary of Paul. Could this be a trap? Was Paul deceiving them in order to search them out and put them under arrest? This was their fear. But Barnabas convinced them otherwise, testifying of what Paul had done in Damascus. This testimony of Barnabas won the apostles over and they welcomed Paul into their fellowship.

With this event came the end of that first, severe persecution. With one conversion to the faith, Jesus had

won for the church peace following conflict. A time of rest and growth had come.

Down through the ages this would become a pattern for the church: persecution followed by peace followed by more persecution followed by more peace. As Luke writes, *"So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied."* (Acts 9:31)

Sometimes we need conflict. Sometimes we need peace.

Either way the Lord is with us through it all, walking with us in our life of faith and comforting us with the Holy Spirit. May we learn to trust him no matter what. 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: God our Rock, in the emptiness of this present age keep us united by faith, through the power of your Holy Spirit, with him who is the resurrection and the life, that we may escape the pains of eternal death; 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**

**#496, v. 4-5**

[4] Holy Spirit, joy divine,  
Cheer this saddened heart of mine;  
Yield a sacred, settled peace,  
Let it grow and still increase.

[5] Holy Spirit, all divine,  
Dwell within this heart of mine;  
Cast down ev'ry idol throne,  
Reign supreme, and reign alone.