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**Daily Prayer**  
**+ Saturday, June 13, 2020 +**

## Invocation

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

**C: Amen.**

## Psalmody

*Psalm 119:1-8*

L: Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!

**C: Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!**

L: You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

**C: Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!**

L: Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

**C: I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules.**

L: I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!

**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

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

[1] Crown Him with many crowns,  
The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns  
All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless king  
Through all eternity.

[2] Crown Him the virgin's Son,  
The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won  
Which now His brow adorn;  
Fruit of the mystic rose,  
Yet of that rose the stem,  
The root whence mercy ever flows,  
The babe of Bethlehem.

[3] Crown Him the Lord of love.  
Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above,  
In beauty glorified.  
No angels in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes  
At mysteries so bright.

## **Reading**

**Acts 12:6-19**

*Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second*

*guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting." When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, "You are out of your mind." But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, "It is his angel!" But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed. But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, "Tell these things to James and to the brothers." Then he departed and went to another place. Now when day came, there was no little disturbance among the soldiers over what had become of Peter. And after Herod searched for him and did not find him, he examined the sentries and ordered that they should be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and spent time there.*

**L:** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson**

As we saw earlier from our reading from Acts 12, Herod Agrippa has taken it upon himself to persecute the church in Jerusalem. His goal is to support the religious majority in Judea, Pharisaic Judaism, and to suppress the minority religion, early Christianity. His determination to do so was evident in the martyrdom of James and now the imprisonment of Peter. His intention is to make an example of Peter now, which would have been a major set-back in the ministry of the church in Jerusalem.

For reasons known only to God, and although he had permitted the martyrdom of James, God chooses to intervene. And so in our reading today God sends an angel to enact a miraculous delivery of Peter from prison and imminent death.

This deliverance is pure miracle. Peter does not contribute to his own salvation and neither does the congregation in Jerusalem, apart from their prayers. God delivers Peter through the sending of an angel who ushers Peter out of the jail. Peter's deliverance must be credited entirely to God alone.

This credit and glory to God for the deliverance of Peter parallels our spiritual salvation in Christ. God planned for our salvation from eternity. He freely chose to send his Son into the world. Jesus lived and died and rose again by God's almighty power, delivering us from sin. The Holy Spirit has come to us in the Word of the Gospel and the sacraments and has brought us to faith. All of this is

God's doing and deliverance; without any merit or worthiness in us. God is the effective cause of our salvation.

And so, just as Peter was delivered from prison by God's almighty power and will; so have we. To him be the glory forever and ever. 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: Almighty and ever-living God, you make us both to will and to do those things that are good and acceptable in your sight. Let your fatherly hand ever guide us and your Holy Spirit ever be with us to direct us in the knowledge and obedience of your Word that we may obtain everlasting life; 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**

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

[4] Crown Him the Lord of life,  
Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing,  
Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring  
And lives that death may die.

[5] Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,  
Enthroned in worlds above,  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n  
The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns

As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,  
For He is king of all.