



Daily Prayer
+ Tuesday, June 2, 2020 +

Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia.

Psalmody

Psalm 115:10-18

L: O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

C: You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

L: The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel;

C: he will bless the house of Aaron; he will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.

L: May the LORD give you increase, you and your children!

C: May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth!

L: The heavens are the LORD's heavens, but the earth he has given to the children of man.

C: The dead do not praise the LORD, nor do any who go down into silence.

L: But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.

C: 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

#497, v. 1-2

[1] Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord,
With all Your graces now outpoured
On each believer's mind and heart;
Your fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of Your light
In holy faith Your Church unite;
From ev'ry land and ev'ry tongue
This to Your praise, O Lord, our God, be sung:
Alleluia, alleluia!

[2] Come, holy Light, guide divine,
Now cause the Word of life to shine.
Teach us to know our God aright
And call Him Father with delight.
From ev'ry error keep us free;
Let none but Christ our master be
That we in living faith abide,
In Him, our Lord, with all our might confide.
Alleluia, alleluia!

Reading

Acts 9:32-43

Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, bedridden for eight years, who was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and

acts of charity. In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then, calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson

Our reading today from Acts 9 contains two supernatural, miraculous healings, performed by the apostle Peter, after the ascension of Jesus to the right hand of the Father in heaven.

This special, unique gift of the Holy Spirit--the power to heal the sick and raise the dead--had been promised to the apostles by Jesus. As he said: "*Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I*

am going to the Father." (John 14:12) And, "These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, 'Proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.'" (Matthew 10:5-8)

The special, unique, miraculous power to heal the sick and raise the dead had been given to the apostles by Jesus himself. The power to heal was not Peter's personal possession, but a gift of the Holy Spirit given to him by Christ.

And so it makes sense in our reading today that as Peter heals Aeneas, he says: *"Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed."* (Acts 9:34) It was not Peter who healed Aeneas and raised Tabitha from the dead, but Jesus Christ himself, who lives and reigns at the right hand of the Father.

The power to heal the sick and raise the dead was a special gift of the Holy Spirit given to the apostles so that they could make known to the world, with a powerful testimony and visible proof, the good news of the Gospel.

And this demonstration of the Spirit's power was effective. As Luke writes, *"And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord."* (Luke 9:34-35)

We ourselves have turned to the Lord in repentance and our faith is grounded on the same basis: the testimony of the apostles found in the New Testament Scriptures. In the Bible, we read the truthful testimony of the apostles, who demonstrated their possession of the Spirit through miracles.

Our reading is one more example of the reliability of the apostolic testimony about Jesus and further evidence that Jesus lives and is active in the church, healing our souls for God. May we trust in him now and forever. 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 all grace and mercy, by your Holy Spirit bless the preaching of your Word and the administration of your sacraments. Preserve these gifts to us and to all of the church; 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

#497, v. 3

[3] Come, holy Fire, comfort true;
Grant us the will Your work to do
And in Your service to abide;
Let trials turn us not aside.
Lord, by Your pow'r prepare each heart,
And to our weakness strength impart
That bravely here we may contend,
Through life and death to You, our Lord, ascend.
Alleluia, alleluia!