



Daily Prayer
+ Wednesday, June 3, 2020 +

Invocation

L: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,

C: and kindle in them the fire of your love! Alleluia.

Psalmody

Psalm 116:1-6

L: I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

C: Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

L: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

C: Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"

L: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

C: The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved 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

#498, v. 1-4

[1] Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
And make our hearts Your place of rest;
Come with Your grace and heav'nly aid,
And fill the hearts which You have made.

[2] To You, the Counselor, we cry,
To You, the gift of God Most High;
The fount of life, the fire of love,
The soul's anointing from above.

[3] In You, with graces sevenfold,
We God's almighty hand behold
While You with tongues of fire proclaim
To all the world His holy name.

[4] Your light to ev'ry thought impart,
And shed Your love in ev'ry heart;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

Reading

Acts 9:36-43

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 gives the account of Tabitha of Joppa, also known as Dorcas, and her resurrection from the dead by the power of Jesus working through the apostle Peter.

Again, the apostles had been given a special gift of the Holy Spirit by which they performed miraculous signs and wonders to give physical testimony and confirmation to their spiritual message concerning Jesus and his death and resurrection in victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil.

The account is powerful, not only as testimony to the authenticity of Peter as an apostle and faithful messenger of God, but also because of what it says about the kingdom of God and the work and plan of Jesus for humanity.

Notice that the Gospel does not simply concern the spiritual well being; but also the physical well being of mankind. The coming of the Son of God into the world does not simply mean the forgiveness of sins and the spiritual blessings of peace with God and the hope of eternal life; but also a physical resurrection from the dead.

Tabitha has come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior through faith in his death and resurrection. She has been saved through repentance and faith and has received baptism. Her sins are forgiven. Her soul is healed. And, what is more, her body also will be saved.

As a sign of this End Time promise, Peter heals Tabitha of the illness which had overcome her and raised her from the dead. This miracle and wonder is a sign pointing to the expectation that we all have on the Last Day. When Christ returns to judge heaven and earth we can expect redemption of our whole selves: soul and body. We wait for a resurrection of the body and a life everlasting.

This is of great importance and ought to be ever kept in mind. We often think of the goal of Christianity being death and going to heaven. And that is our hope. Our souls go to be with Jesus when we die. But there is more to the Gospel than dying and going to heaven. Our hope is in the resurrection of the body. We anticipate that on our Lord's Return our souls will descend with the angels and Christ will raise our bodies from the dead.

Then we will live with the Lord forever, a new heaven and a new earth, body and soul restored to God, forever and ever. Come Lord Jesus! 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 Almighty, guard and protect us from all dangers of body and soul. Grant that we may with faithful perseverance receive from you our sorrows as well as our joys, knowing that health and sickness, riches and poverty, and all things come by permission of your fatherly hand; 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

#498, v. 5-7

[5] Drive far away our wily foe,
And Your abiding peace bestow;
With You as our protecting guide,
No evil can with us abide.

[6] Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And You, from both, as Three in One
That we Your name may ever bless
And in our lives the truth confess.

[7] Praise we the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, with them One,
And may the Son on us bestow
The gifts that from the Spirit flow!