



Prayer of the Day

O God, you never undermine your purpose, as you perfectly provide for all that you create. Remove from our way all that is harmful and give us what will profit that we may share in your invincible grace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Psalms 145:1-15*

¹I will exalt you, O | God my King,*
and bless your name forev- | er and ever.
²Every day | will I bless you*
and praise your Name forev- | er and ever.
³Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised;*
there is no end | to his greatness.
⁴One generation shall praise your works | to another*
and shall de- | clare your power.
⁵I will ponder the glorious splendor | of your majesty*
and all your mar- | velous works.
⁶They shall speak of the might of your | wondrous acts,*
and I will tell | of your greatness.
⁷They shall publish the remembrance of | your great goodness;*
they shall sing of your | righteous deeds.
⁸The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,*
slow to anger and | of great kindness.
⁹The LORD is loving to | everyone*
and his compassion is over | all his works.
¹⁰All your works praise | you, O LORD,*
and your faithful | servants bless you.
¹¹They make known the glory | of your kingdom*
and speak | of your power;

¹²That the peoples may know | of your power*
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.
¹³Your kingdom is an ever- | lasting kingdom;*
your dominion endures through- | out all ages.
¹⁴The LORD is faithful in | all his words*
and merciful in | all his deeds.
¹⁵The LORD upholds all | those who fall; *
he lifts up those who | are bowed down.

Second Reading: Romans 7:14-25a

¹⁴We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! ...

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Lessons for Next Week: Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13;
Romans 8:12-17; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23