



## Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, you restrain the powers of heaven and earth. Mercifully hear your people's prayers for peace in our time. Grant this, we pray, 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: Isaiah 49:1-7

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. <sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God." <sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him — for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength — <sup>6</sup>he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." <sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

## Psalms 40:1-12\*

<sup>1</sup>I waited patiently up- | on the LORD;\*  
he stooped to me and | heard my cry.  
<sup>2</sup>He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | mire and clay;\*  
he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my | footing sure.  
<sup>3</sup>He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;\*  
many shall see, and stand in awe,  
and put their trust | in the LORD.  
<sup>4</sup>Happy are they who trust | in the LORD!\*  
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn | to false gods.  
<sup>5</sup>Great things are they that you have done, O LORD my God!  
How great your wonders and your | plans for us!\*  
there is none who can be com- | pared with you.  
<sup>6</sup>Oh, that I could make them | known and tell them!\*  
but they are more than | I can count.  
<sup>7</sup>In sacrifice and offering you | take no pleasure;\*  
you have given me | ears to hear you;  
<sup>8</sup>Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have | not required,\*  
and so I said, "Be- | hold, I come.  
<sup>9</sup>In the roll of the book it is written con- | cerning me:  
'I love to do your will, O my God;  
your law is deep | in my heart.'"  
<sup>10</sup>I proclaimed righteousness in the great | congregation;\*  
behold, I did not restrain my lips;  
and that, O | LORD, you know.

<sup>11</sup>Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and | your deliverance;\*  
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness  
from the great | congregation.  
<sup>12</sup>You are the LORD; do not withhold your com- | passion  
from me;\*  
let your love and your faithfulness keep me | safe forever.

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

<sup>1</sup>Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge — <sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you — <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Gospel: John 1:29-42a

<sup>29</sup>The next day {John} saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." <sup>35</sup>The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). <sup>42a</sup>He brought him to Jesus.

Lessons for Next Week: Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1-9 [10-14];  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-25