



Prayer of the Day

Almighty and merciful God, only by your gift of grace can the faithful offer service that is worthy of you and deserving of praise. Keep us from stumbling as we run to receive your promises; 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: Job 38:4-18

⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements — surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed?” ¹²Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? ¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. ¹⁵From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? ¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.”

Psalm 18:1-6 [7-16*]

¹I love you, O | LORD my strength,*
O LORD my stronghold, my crag, | and my haven.
²**My God, my rock in whom I | put my trust,***
my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my refuge:
You are worth- | y of praise.
³I will call up- | on the LORD,*
and so shall I be saved | from my enemies.
⁴**The breakers of death rolled | over me,***
and the torrents of oblivion made | me afraid.
⁵The cords of hell en- | tangled me,*
and the snares of death were | set for me.
⁶**I called upon the LORD in | my distress***
and cried out to my | God for help.
[⁷He heard my voice from his heav- | enly dwelling;*
my cry of anguish came | to his ears.
⁸**The earth | reeled and rocked;***
the roots of the mountains shook;
they reeled because | of his anger.
⁹Smoke rose from his nostrils
and a consuming fire out | of his mouth;*
hot burning coals blazed | forth from him.
¹⁰**He parted the heavens | and came down***
with a storm cloud un- | der his feet.
¹¹He mounted on cherub- | im and flew,*
he swooped on the wings | of the wind.
¹²**He wrapped dark- | ness about him;***
he made dark waters and thick clouds | his pavilion.
¹³From the brightness of his presence, | through the clouds,*
burst hailstones and | coals of fire.
¹⁴**The LORD thundered | out of heaven;***
the Most High ut- | tered his voice.

¹⁵He loosed his arrows and | scattered them;*
he hurled thunderbolts and | routed them.

¹⁶**The beds of the seas were uncovered,**
and the foundations of the | world laid bare,*
at your battle cry, O LORD,
at the blast of the breath | of your nostrils.

¹⁷He reached down from on high | and grasped me;*
he drew me out | of great waters.]

Second Reading: Romans 10:5-17

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” ¹⁴How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “LORD, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

²²Immediately {Jesus} made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” ²⁸And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Lessons for Next Week: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67;
Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32; Matthew 15:21-28