



Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, graciously look down on our weakness. Reach out to us with your majestic right hand, and satisfy us with his glory. We ask through the same 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 9:1-4

¹But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Psalm 27:1-9 [10-18]*

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?*
the LORD is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I | be afraid?

²When evildoers came upon me to eat | up my flesh,*
it was they, my foes and my adversaries,
who stum- | bled and fell.

³Though an army should en- | camp against me,*
yet my heart shall not | be afraid;

⁴And though war should rise | up against me,*
yet will I put my | trust in him.

⁵One thing have I asked of the LORD; one | thing I seek;*
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days | of my life;

⁶To behold the fair beauty | of the LORD*
and to seek him | in his temple.

⁷For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe | in his shelter;*
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high up- | on a rock.

⁸Even now he lifts | up my head*
above my enemies | round about me.

⁹Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds | of great gladness;*

I will sing and make music | to the LORD.

¹⁰Hearken to my voice, O LORD, | when I call;*
have mercy on me and | answer me.

¹¹You speak in my heart and say, | "Seek my face."*
Your face, LORD, | will I seek.

¹²Hide not your | face from me,*
nor turn away your servant | in displeasure.

¹³You have been my helper; cast me | not away;*
do not forsake me, O God of | my salvation.

¹⁴Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,*
the LORD | will sustain me.]

¹⁵Show me your | way, O LORD;*
lead me on a level path, because | of my enemies.

¹⁶Deliver me not into the hand of my | adversaries,*
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also
those | who speak malice.

¹⁷What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness | of
the LORD*
in the land | of the living!

¹⁸O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure; be strong,
and he shall com- | fort your heart;*
wait patiently | for the LORD.]

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-25

¹²When {Jesus} heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,

¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles – ¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned." ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. ²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

Lessons for Next Week: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15;
1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12