

+ The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism +

INTROIT PSALM 119

Let your steadfast love | comfort me* according to your promise to your | servant. Your hands have made and | fashioned me;* give me understanding that I may learn your com- | mandments. Those who fear you shall see me | and rejoice,* because I have hoped | in your word. I know, O LORD, that your just decrees are | righteous,* and that in faithfulness you have af- | flicted me. Let your mercy come to me, that | I may live;* for your law is | my delight. Glory to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Let your steadfast love | comfort me* according to your promise to your | servant.

<u>COLLECT OF THE DAY</u>

O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

<u>PSALM 146</u>

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD! Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

SELECTED READINGS 25 SEPTEMBER 2022

Old Testament/Amos 6:1–7. Epistle/1 Timothy 3:1–13. Gospel/Luke 16:19–31

Our Help Is Not in Worldly Riches

- "The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side," and "the rich man also died and was buried". The poor man Lazarus, who knew many bad things on earth, began to be comforted forever, whereas the rich man, after a lifetime of good things, began to be "in anguish". (Luke 16)
- Therefore, "woe to those who are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6:1), for "the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away". (Amos 6:7)
- The wealthy are urged "not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches," but "to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share". Covetous desire for what God has not given is idolatry and "a root of all kinds of evils". Contentment belongs to faith, by which the Christian has "great gain" in godliness. (1 Tim. 6:6)

CONFESSION OF OUR COMMON FAITH: NICENE CREED

Hymn of the Day. *Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels* 695

<u>SERMON NOTES</u>

25 September 2022 *Listen to Moses and the Prophets* Luke 16:29-31 Abraham replied, 'They have Moses' Teachings and the Prophets. Your brothers should listen to them!' "The rich man replied, 'No, Father Abraham! If someone comes back to them from the dead, they will turn to God and change the way they think and act.' "Abraham answered him, 'If they won't listen to Moses' Teachings and the Prophets, they won't be persuaded even if someone comes back to life.'"

God's offer of salvation from sin and death comes not as we imagine it should, but through Moses' Teachings, the Prophets and the Psalms which create faith in those who gladly hear it.

1. God rescues through His holy Word

- 1. Jesus explains God's plan of salvation from the Scriptures
- 2. The Church trusts that faith comes by hearing the Word
- 2. The rich man wants things to work out his way
 - Send Lazarus to dip his finger in water and cool my tongue
 Send Lazarus to warn my five brothers
- 3. Poor Lazarus helped of God saved by grace alone
 - 1. Blessed are you poor, for yours is the Kingdom of God
 - 2. The Great Reversal/Exchange: by His poverty we become rich

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. 25 SEPT. 2022

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

God of mercy, You provide us with Your Holy Word, that we might know and believe in Christ. Make us diligent to study Your Word and dwell in Your promises, that we are content with Your provision in this life and joyfully look toward the life to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Holy God, remember the men to whom You have given the noble task of pastor. Strengthen them, that they might be above reproach as they care for their own households as well as Your Church. Preserve them from every snare of the devil, and give them a great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Father in heaven, preserve our homes from idols and sins of idleness. Bless fathers and mothers as they catechize their children, that generations to come might faithfully guard their hearts and rejoice in Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

King of kings and Lord of lords, watch over the authorities of this and every nation. Deliver them from the idols of wealth and power, and grant that they would use their offices in service to You and those You have entrusted to their care. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Almighty God, You afflict in faithfulness and comfort in Your steadfast love. Let Your mercy come to *[*

and] all in need of help, that they might find their consolation in Your promises until You deliver them from their trouble. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, You have rescued us from our sin, and now You feed us sumptuously with Your Son's body and blood. Grant that all who receive this Holy Supper today would be preserved from hard-heartedness, clothed in Christ's righteousness, and comforted by Your gifts of life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You deliver Your people from the sufferings of this world and comfort them with eternal rest. Receive our thanks for Your kindness to the saints who have gone before us, and preserve us in repentance until we are carried by angels to Abraham's side. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Answer all doubt and fear, O Lord, with confidence in Your Word and Sacraments, that by these Means of Grace we may be kept in holiness and guarded from temptation and despair until the day when You bring all things to their perfect fulfillment and we are delivered to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**