

# The Congregation at Prayer

For the week of *The Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

**Sunday, January 27, 2019 through Saturday, February 2, 2019**

## **“Jesus Came for Gentiles, Too”**

2 Kings 5:1-15a; Romans 12:16-21; Matthew 8:1-13

The Gospel of Christ is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Gentile (Romans 1:8-17). Even in the Old Testament, the Gentiles were beneficiaries of God’s saving power. Though unimpressed at first with the Word of God, a Syrian commander is persuaded to receive that Word, and in the water he is cleansed and brought to faith in the God of Israel (2 Kings 5:1–15a). Evil is overcome by good (Romans 12:16–21). So also in the New Testament, a Roman centurion demonstrates great and humble faith in the Lord (Matthew 8:1–13). All he needs is the Word of Christ, for he trusts that Jesus’ Word of healing has authority to accomplish what it says. And indeed it does. The centurion’s faith is praised by our Lord above that of any Israelite. For the last shall be first, and the first last. Apart from faith in Christ, there is no salvation—not for Jew or Gentile—but only weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**INVOCATION** (*make the sign of the holy cross and say*)

In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**THE APOSTLES CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the ✠ life everlasting. Amen.

**PSALM**          Psalm 110

**THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION**

*Article X: The Lord's Supper*

See *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, pp. 35, 153-155

**DAILY READINGS**

Sunday, January 27: Zechariah 4:1-5:11  
Romans 15:14-33

Monday, January 28: Zechariah 6:1-7:14  
Romans 16:17-27

Tuesday, January 29: Zechariah 8:1-23  
2 Timothy 1:1-18

Wednesday, January 30: Zechariah 9:1-17  
2 Timothy 2:1-26

Thursday, January 31: Zechariah 10:1-11:3  
2 Timothy 3:1-17

Friday, February 1: Zechariah 11:4-17

2 Timothy 4:1-18

Saturday, February 2: Zechariah 12:1-13:9

Titus 1:1-2:6

**HYMN**

*God Loved the World So That He Gave*

*LSB 571:1, 5*

**God loved the world so that He gave**

**If you are sick, if death is near,**

**His only Son the lost to save,**

**This truth your troubled heart can cheer:**

**That all who would in Him believe**

**Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;**

**Should everlasting life receive.**

**That is the firmest ground of faith.**

**PRAYERS**

Almighty and Everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your Majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

O Lord, look down from Heaven. Behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers: **[insert the names of family members, friends, church members, government officials, those in need, etc.]** Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy. Grant them comfort and sure confidence in You. Defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but ✠ deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### **MORNING PRAYER**

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

### **BLESSING**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit ✠ be with us all. Amen.

### **EVENING PRAYER**

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

### **LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT SUNDAY: *The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany***

Jonah 1:1-17

Psalm 96

Romans 8:18-23

Matthew 8:23-27

Hymn of the Day

*Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

LSB 743