

## **Morning Prayer**

Wednesday, May 17th

## Psalm 119:97-120

97 Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.

98 Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.100 I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

101 I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

102 I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me.

103 How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
104 Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

106 I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.

107 I am severely afflicted; give me life, O
Lord, according to your word.
108 Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me your ordinances.

109 I hold my life in my hand continually, but I do not forget your law.

110 The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I do not stray from your precepts.

111 Your decrees are my heritage forever;they are the joy of my heart.112 I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.

113 I hate the double-minded, but I love your law.

114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.

115 Go away from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commandments of my God. 116 Uphold me according to your promise, that I may live, and let me not be put to shame in my hope.

117 Hold me up, that I may be safe and have regard for your statutes continually.*118 You spurn all who go astray from your statutes, for their cunning is in vain.* 

119 All the wicked of the earth I count[a] as dross; therefore I love your decrees.120 My flesh trembles for fear of you, and I am afraid of your judgments.

## A reading from the letter of James *(James 5:13-18)*

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth yielded its harvest.

Reader:The Word of the Lord.People:Thanks be to God.

## A reading from the Gospel of Luke (Luke 12:22-31)

He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, you of little faith! And do not keep seeking what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that seek all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.People: Thanks be to God.