



Morning Prayer

Wednesday, May 7th

Psalm 38

1 O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger; do not punish me in your wrath.

2 For your arrows have already pierced me, and your hand presses hard upon me.

3 There is no health in my flesh, because of your indignation; there is no soundness in my body, because of my sin.

4 For my iniquities overwhelm me; like a heavy burden they are too much for me to bear.

5 My wounds stink and fester by reason of my foolishness.

6 I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; I go about in mourning all the day long.

7 My loins are filled with searing pain; there is no health in my body.

8 I am utterly numb and crushed; I wail, because of the groaning of my heart.

9 O Lord, you know all my desires, and my sighing is not hidden from you.

10 My heart is pounding, my strength has failed me, and the brightness of my eyes is gone from me.

11 My friends and companions draw back from my affliction; my neighbors stand afar off.

12 Those who seek after my life lay snares for me; those who strive to hurt me speak of my ruin and plot treachery all the day long.

13 But I am like the deaf who do not hear, like those who are mute and do not open their mouth.

14 I have become like one who does not hear and from whose mouth comes no defense.

15 For in you, O Lord, have I fixed my hope; you will answer me, O Lord my God.

16 For I said, Do not let them rejoice at my expense, those who gloat over me when my foot slips."

17 Truly, I am on the verge of falling, and my pain is always with me.

18 I will confess my iniquity and be sorry for my sin.

19 Those who are my enemies without cause are mighty, and many in number are those who wrongfully hate me.

20 Those who repay evil for good slander me, because I follow the course that is right.

21 O Lord, do not forsake me; be not far from me, O my God.

22 Make haste to help me, O Lord of my salvation.

A reading from the first letter of John (1 John 5:1-12)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (Luke 4:38-44)

After leaving the synagogue he entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her. Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them. As the sun was setting, all those caring for any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them. Moreover, demons also came out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah. At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowds began looking for him, and when they reached him they tried to keep him from leaving them. But he said to them, "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose." So he continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea.

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