

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, HANOVER, PA

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Prayer of the Day

L: Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The First Reading: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

¹Does not wisdom call,

and does not understanding raise her voice?

²On the heights, beside the way,

at the crossroads she takes her stand;

³beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries out:

⁴"To you, O people, I call,

and my cry is to all that live.

²²The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,

the first of his acts of long ago.

²³Ages ago I was set up,

at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

²⁴When there were no depths I was brought forth,

when there were no springs abounding with water.

²⁵Before the mountains had been shaped,

before the hills, I was brought forth—

²⁶when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.
²⁷When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
²⁸when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
³⁰then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,
³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

The Second Reading: Romans 5:1-5

¹Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The Gospel: John 16:12-15

[Jesus said,] ¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

Prayers of the People

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their need.

(A brief silence.)

L: We pray that the mystery of Trinity may continue to invite us into wholeness of life and service with you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for Your majesty among us, to be revealed to all the people of earth. Teach us to love what you have made, and guide us to be your faithful stewards. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for peace among the nations, and for leaders who will reject the malevolent powers of worldliness that hinder benevolence for people. Grant them courage to govern as you desire; with justice, kindness, and mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for the healing of divisions among us, for reconciliation with one another, and for an end to bondage and oppression. Comfort all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit, and pour your love into every heart. Especially we ask your presence now with all those we lift before you in the earnest prayers of our hearts. (P-A-U-S-E) Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Father of us all, keep us mindful of our trespasses; save us from bearing false witness, and help us honor your name above all others. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

L: O God, you have called the saints your own. Gather us, with them, into your kingdom, in the promise of life forever with you. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C:Amen.