

**Lenten Midday Prayer – March 8, 2023**  
**Jesus Heals a Soldier's Servant**

**Welcome**

**St. Luke's Preschool Singers**

**Opening Prayer**

L: O God of Peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**Litany of Healing**

L: Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers:

*(Please take a moment of silent reflection.)*

L: God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation.

**C: Have mercy on us.**

L: God the Son, who came that we might have life, and have it more abundantly.

**C: Have mercy on us.**

L: God the Spirit, whose temple our bodies are.

**C: Have mercy on us.**

L: Holy Trinity, in whom we live, and move, and have our being.

**C: Have mercy on us. Amen.**

**First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3; 5:10-14**

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 8:5-13**

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and cure him." The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it." When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who

followed him, “Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.” And the servant was healed in that hour.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **Prayers**

L: We pray that you will hear us, O Lord; and will grant your grace to all.

**C: Hear us, and make us whole.**

L: That you will be with the leaders of the nations, that their decisions will sustain the lives of the most vulnerable among us.

**C: Hear us, and make us whole.**

L: That you will sustain those who face long or terminal illness, bearing them up as on eagle’s wings.

**C: Hear us, and make us whole.**

L: That you will abide with all who are lonely or despondent, having no one to comfort them.

**C: Hear us, and make us whole.**

L: That you will restore all who are in mental darkness to soundness of mind and cheerfulness of heart.

**C: Hear us, and make us whole.**

L: That you will grant us life eternal so we may live in your hope that doesn’t disappoint.

**C: Hear us, and make us whole.**

L: That you will give your wisdom in ample measure to doctors, nurses, and medical workers of all kind, so that with knowledge, skill, patience, they may minister to the sick.

**C: Hear us, and make us whole.**

L: That you will give us grateful hearts for your healing power already at work all around us.

**C: Hear us, and make us whole.**

### **Lord’s Prayer**

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Savior taught us.

**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.**

### **Closing Prayer**

L: Jesus Lamb of God, bearer of our sins, redeemer of the world.

**C: Have mercy on us and give us your peace. Amen.**

### **Benediction**

L: May the Lord fill us with the light and truth and love of the Spirit, overflowing that we share it with others in Jesus’ name.

**C: Amen.**