

## Lenten Midday Prayer – March 15, 2023

### Jesus Heals Two Men with Demons

#### 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: Psalm 25:16-20

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me. O guard my life, and deliver me; do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

L: The word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### Gospel Reading: Matthew 8:28-34

When he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs coming out of the tombs met him. They were so fierce that no one could pass that way. Suddenly they shouted, "What have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them. The demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go!" So they came out and entered the swine; and suddenly, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and perished in the water. The swineherders ran off, and on going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the demoniacs. Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood.

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.**