

Sentence of Scripture

Today salvation has come to this house,
for the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.

Luke 19:10

Prayer of the day

Merciful God, righteous Judge of all,
who sent Jesus among us to seek and to save those who are lost:
grant that we may eagerly seek the Saviour,
and joyfully welcome him into our homes and lives.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings

Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4

¹ The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. ²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous— therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1} I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ²Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. ⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith. (NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalms 119:137–144

¹³⁷ Righteous are you, Lord God:

and just are your judgements;

¹³⁸ The commands that you have commanded:

are exceedingly righteous and true.

¹³⁹ Zeal and indignation have choked my mouth:

because my enemies have forgotten your words.

¹⁴⁰ Your word has been tried in the fire:

and therefore your servant loves it.

¹⁴¹ I am small and of no account:

but I have not forgotten your precepts.

¹⁴² Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness:

and your law is the truth.

¹⁴³ Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me:

but your commandments are my delight.

¹⁴⁴ The righteousness of your commands is everlasting:

O give me understanding, and I shall live.

2 Thessalonians 1:1–4, 11–12

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. ⁴ Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.

¹¹ To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, ¹² so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Luke 19:1–10

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to . . .

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ² A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” ⁶ So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷ All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” ⁸ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” ⁹ Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.” (NRSV)

This is the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**