

## WORSHIP READINGS

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- A. The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray together.
- C. **Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### FIRST LESSON:

### HABAKKUK 1:1-4; 2:1-4

<sup>1</sup>The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

<sup>2</sup>O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,  
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you "Violence!"  
and you will not save?

<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me see wrongdoing  
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;  
strife and contention arise.

<sup>4</sup>So the law becomes slack  
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—  
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

<sup>2:1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>Then the Lord answered me and said:

Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.

<sup>3</sup>For 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.

<sup>4</sup>Look at the proud!  
Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faith.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM (CAROLYN SINGS)**

**PSALM 37:1-9**



Psalm 37:5  
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**SECOND READING:**

**2 TIMOTHY 1:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; <sup>7</sup>for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, <sup>9</sup>who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup>but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup>For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup>and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup>Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

**R.** The word of the Lord.

**C.** Thanks be to God.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A. As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

*A brief silence.*

A. We pray for your holy church in every place and for those who serve following the example of Christ (rostered and lay leaders may be named). Help them to live by faith and walk by the light of your gospel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. For parts of the world ravaged by natural disaster (especially): relieve those affected by floods, wildfires, droughts, earthquakes, tornadoes, and hurricanes. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. For every nation and for those entrusted with authority: grant our leaders self-discipline in all things, and inspire them with love for your people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. For victims of violence, abuse, and neglect: heal those who have been harmed and protect those who are vulnerable. For all who are sick especially Gayle Matthis, Joan Wheeler, Laurie Sanders, David Roberts, Lynne Schrimper, Robert Schlaufman, Kellie Montifiori, Sharon Hetrick, and Judy Crissman, Denny Sanders, Ellen Stevens, Fran Moriarty, Keri Schmidt, Arlene Rick, Gliceria Conuel, Amy Nupp, Brian Boam, Kay Knobloch, and Roger Seman. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. For this and every congregation: rekindle your gifts within your people, and inspire councils, committees, and individuals to plan and work together that all may know your love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. In thanksgiving that you have abolished death, and for the saints who have died (especially). Bring us all to eternal life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**