

for the disciples to follow. The substance of this teaching was the revelation of the ultimate goal of God's incarnation in Christ. God would deliver His Son into the hands of the human authorities. Even though they would kill Him, on the third day He would rise from the dead. On the contrary they were busy debating among themselves the question of greatness. Doubting the servant model Jesus had been living out for them, they surmised that if they would be leaders they should assert themselves. Jesus had to remind them God is the head of all and that being great is a function of the wisdom and knowledge of Jesus.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

© O God and Father, Loving Creator of all things in Heaven and Earth, we bring our prayer to You. You are over all, the supreme and only Sovereign. You are the ruling and sustaining power. You are in all as the Savior of death or life according to Your Holy judgment. We bow in humility before You.

We are unable by our own reason or strength to walk worthily in the faith You have given us. We are unable by our own honor to bear the name of Christ. We are unable by our own obedience to follow Your Command. For all these our failures, we ask that You would pour out upon us Your Holy Spirit, that we may have those virtues that we lack, but which are pleasing in Your sight.

For our stubbornness and self-will, bestow on us submission to Your will. For our pride and conceit, endow us with lowliness of mind. For our complaining and vengeful spirits, give us the spirit of meekness. For our resentment and anger, grant us patience. Help us by Your grace to bear in love each others faults and infirmities, to serve one another in charity and kindness, and to bless those who may seek to harm us.

Look in mercy on Your church, O God, and grant that we may keep in peace and love the unity You gave us and for which our Lord prayed. Produce in all the members; an abiding sense of faith in Christ, repentance for their sin, and saving knowledge of Your doctrine. Give us a due sense of obedience to the revelation You have provided for Your Word.

Set Your healing powers to work in the sick and the afflicted. Hear their cry and remember them in Your mercy, upholding them by the comforting power of Your Spirit. Show Yourself to them as an ever-present help, the Savior of all who believe.

Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. **(Time of silent prayer.)**

Through the Love of Jesus we pray.

© **Amen.**

PROPER TWENTY

Chant Tone



Introit

Delight yourself | in the Lord,*
and He will give you the desires
| of your heart.
Commit your way | to the Lord;*
trust in Him, and | He will act.
He will bring forth your righteousness
| as the light,*
and your justice as the — noonday.
Be still be | fore the Lord*
and wait patient | ly for Him;

fret not yourself over the one who
prosper | in his way,*
over the man who carries out — evil.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy — Spirit;
as it was in the be — ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. — Amen.

Delight yourself | in the Lord,*
and He will give you the desires
| of your heart.

*Antiphon, Psalm 37:4;
Psalm 37:5-7)*

Collect of the Day

O God, Whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Gradual

Fear the Lord, | you His saints,*
for those who fear Him lack — nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the — righteous,*
but the Lord delivers him out | of them all.

(Psalm 34:9, 19, alernatibve)

ENTRANCE PRAYER: O Lord, our Light and Salvation, You are the Stronghold of our life. With You as our God, we face the world without fear. As the heavens are high above the Earth, so Your ways are higher than our ways and Your thoughts higher than our thoughts. Make us see how the least of our efforts are brought to great reward through Your labor, and make us bold to seek from You willingness to proclaim Your Love. Send us a full measure of Your Holy Spirit to help us see the opportunities to do Your work and according to Your mercy, grant us success in our labors. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

ON THE 22nd OF THIS MONTH WE ENTER INTO THE SEASON OF FALL. We usually consider Fall to be the beginning of the end, because the leaves all turn brown, red or yellow and fall off. In fact the trees need this time of rest so that in the spring they are prepared to produce fruit for another season. We are each and every one involved in a new beginning. We have the new beginning of daily putting aside our sinful nature and taking on the nature of Christ. We live the new beginning of drowning the old man of sin and standing before God, perfect, washed clean in the water of our Baptism. Our night of rest has ended and we are prepared for another day of producing fruit in the kingdom.

THEME OF THE DAY

That Which Makes Us Great

INTROIT—(Antiphon: Psalm 37:4;) Psalm 37:5-7

Psalm 37 is a Maschil, (a teaching song.) It was written by King David to explain how to live, when life looks the darkest. Trusting in the Law of God, and fulfilling that trust, will ensure that we have a life worthy of God. For all the work God did to bring us to Salvation, it is a simple thing to give Him the glory and sing His praise. Singing this song encourages us to leave ourselves and trust in God.

COLLECT

This Collect was written to sound similar to the historical Collect for the day. We recognize that our weakness is God's strength. Therefore we as that in our childlike weakness, Our Father's will, lived out through us will be pleasing to Him.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Jeremiah 11:18-20

Jeremiah was confronted with a conspiracy on the part of the people from his home town of Anathoth to destroy him. Jeremiah had knowledge of this plot only because the Lord informed him. Jeremiah described his innocence in the midst of this plot. When we compare this with Christ as the suffering servant we see the parallels. (From the Gospel Lesson, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill Him.") Jeremiah turned to God for help. He realized that the Lord was his only assurance for survival. Jeremiah knew that the Lord would be victorious over His enemies because God is greater than all.

GRADUAL—Psalm 34:9, 19 alternative

To avoid being murdered by Saul, David ran to one of Saul's enemies and acted insane. Eventually, David recognized his lack of faith and stopped. Psalm 34 celebrated the knowledge that, no matter what happens God works it for good. (Next week a new Gradual.)

EPISTLE LESSON—James 3:13–4:10

Wisdom as presented by James refers to a trait or a set of traits, a mode of behavior. Wisdom is presented in the Old Testament as a person and that person is Christ. Christ is presented by Paul as the wisdom of God. James was expressing that the greatest of wisdom is Jesus. The greatest one among us was peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy etc. It is a classic battle of Good verses Evil. The world works to tear us away. The Holy Spirit works to make us great in of the wisdom of God.

GOSPEL LESSON—Mark 9:30-37

We begin with Jesus instructing the disciples. The instruction consisted of the prophecy of His death and Resurrection and the pattern of behavior