

the Jewish laws.) Paul reminded them that their acceptability before God had not changed. It is through faith in Jesus and not through first becoming a Jew that we are saved.

GOSPEL LESSON—Luke 7:1-10

A Centurion is a Roman soldier. A man in charge of 100 (thus century.) He is specifically not a Jew. The Centurion's servant was ill, not one of his soldiers. This servant was very dear to the man, and he asked his friends from among the Jewish leadership to speak with Jesus on behalf of his servant. The Centurion did not see how Jesus, a Rabbi, would want him to do the asking. The Jewish leaders contend that the man should get his way because of the money he gave to the temple. Jesus healed the servant, because of the Centurion's faith, proclaiming that Gentiles are able to believe in Jesus.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

⑩ Almighty God, our heavenly Father You are our strength and stay. Uphold all creation by Your power. Sustain the Earth and all who live here by Your Love. Help us as we walk in Your way, to do it in the wisdom that only comes from You.

We praise You for the Revelation of Your essence in Your Law, in which You have taught us Your Holy will and by which You govern the world. Grant that Your Law may ever instruct us in righteousness, that we will listen to Your Laws as Commandments that keep us from its judgments.

We thank You that in the merits and mercies of Christ our Lord You have prepared for us the Great Supper of salvation. Through the preaching of the Gospel You have called all to come and partake; to break bread in Your kingdom. We pray that Your Church may faithfully bring Your invitation to all nations and that many may respond with ready and willing hearts. Send forth messengers to invite those in the streets and lanes of the city and those on the highways of life, the poor, the maimed the troubled, that they may taste of Your Supper and see that You are merciful and good.

Lord of hosts, rule over all to whom You have committed authority. Refine our society by giving it purity of motive, nobleness of purpose, and strength of character. Bless our homes, that they may be places of true wisdom and love, that all therein will abide in peace, joy and harmony with one another. Comfort the sick and the sorrowful, the aged and the lonely. Tenderly bestow upon them Your grace and show us all the great mercy You have prepared.

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

Hear our prayer O Father, and if there is anything else we should have asked, grant it to us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Intercessor.

© Amen.

PROPER FOUR

Chant Tone



Introit

Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I
may walk | in Your truth;*
unite my heart to | fear Your name.

Incline Your ear, O Lord, and | answer
me.*

for I am poor and —needy.

Preserve my life for I am —godly;*

Save Your servant, who trusts in
You —You | are my God.

Be gracious to me, —O Lord,*

For to You do I cry | all the day.

Gladden the soul of Your —servant,*
For to You, O Lord, do I lift | up my
soul

For great is Your steadfast | love
toward me;*

You have delivered my soul from
the depths | of Sheol.

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.

Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I
may walk | in Your truth;*
unite my heart to | fear Your name.

(Antiphon, Psalm 86:11;
Psalm 86:1-4, 13)

Collect of the Day

O God, by Your almighty Word You set in order all things in Heaven and on Earth. Put away from us all things hurtful, and give us those things that are beneficial for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Gradual

The word is near you, in your mouth and | in your heart,*
that is the word of faith that | we proclaim.
For with the heart one believes and is | justified,*
and with the mouth one confesses | and is saved.

(Romans 10:8b, 10)

ENTRANCE PRAYER: Heavenly Father, hear us as we confess our need for a more holy faith. We believe in your omnipotence, and in Your benevolence, but too often we approach You with bold commands, instead of with the confidence that You know what is best in every situation. Our humility is often undone by our being convinced that we deserve Your blessings. Forgive us for our spiritual immaturity. Grant us the faith to trust completely in Your Divine authority and accept our worship this day, as testimony to the faith we have in the Lordship of Christ in our life. This we ask in the name of Jesus, the name that is above every other name. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

WE WELCOME TO WORSHIP ALL WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED BY THE POWER OF OUR FATHER, THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT, IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. We now enter the Season of the Sundays after Pentecost, or Trinity (as we have called them both) the non-festival half of the Church Year. We listen to the general lessons of life and faith which Jesus taught to His disciples. These lessons were important to the faith and life of the disciples who walked with Jesus so many years ago. These lessons are even more important for we who walk in the foot prints of Jesus. We begin then with the knowledge that there is no other God, Who in the person of His Son, came to us with healing (the physical healing to prove that He had the authority and the power to heal our eternal soul.)

THEME OF THE DAY:

Even The Gentiles Believe

INTROIT—(Antiphon, 86:11;) Psalm 86:1-4, 13

When God has taught us His will, we are able to walk in the truth of life. We will no longer be lead astray by the lies the world tells us. In Him we truly understand the wonder of life. Psalm 86 is considered to be a general prayer of David's. It teaches us to lift up our hearts to God.

COLLECT

We ask our creator God to take away the hurtful power of sin and give us the beneficial things that come to us through Jesus.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—1 Kings 8:22-24, 27-29, 41-43

This is a prayer of Solomon. In this prayer which comes from the dedication of the temple, he described functions in the temple. It would be a place where God and people meet, a place where people present their petitions and repentance. A Place where God promised to listen attentively and responsively. There is a section that must have surprised the Hebrew people listening. Solomon prayed for the alien (using a word that means a Gentile who has been let in to the Hebrew religion) and foreigner (which is which is a word that means someone unknown, someone outside their scope of influence.) The "foreigners" are said to bring prayers "toward this house." We are the foreigners, because, although we are not Jews our worship and prayers are accepted and heard by Jesus.

GRADUAL—Romans 10:8b, 10

In the first change to a three year cycle, the Graduals were established to change with the festival or every few weeks during the Sundays after Pentecost. The historic church used a different Gradual connected to the theme of each Sunday. In our latest revision of the readings, we modified the order of the Graduals, but nothing new was added, until today. For the next nine weeks we will chant two new Graduals. Today we add the second part of verse 8 to the second half of the Gradual for Pentecost (verse 10,) and we comment on the work of the Holy Spirit. He put the Word in our heart and head and made it possible for us to proclaim our faith.

EPISTLE LESSON—Galatians 1:1-12

Paul began by asserting his status as Apostle, and showed that he was with the "brothers." The Apostles were all Jews. They were chosen by Jesus from among the Hebrew people. There was a problem going on in Galatia. Although Paul had taught them, some Jewish people were coming along behind him, and teaching that first they must become Jews, before they could be Christians. Paul was concerned that what he began as faith in their hearts they are trying to fulfill physically, (trying to fulfill