INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father
  and of the Son +
  and of the Holy Spirit.

G: Amen

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 100

A: Sing to the Lord a new song;
   sing to the Lord a new song.

L: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

G: Worship the LORD with gladness;
L: come before him with joyful songs.

G: Know that the LORD is God.

L: It is he who made us, and we are his;

G: we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

L: Enter his gates with thanksgiving
   and his courts with praise;

G: give thanks to him and praise his name.

L: For the LORD is good and his love endures
   forever;

G: his faithfulness continues through all
   generations.

A: Sing to the Lord a new song;
   sing to the Lord a new song.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, you rule over all things in wisdom and
   kindness. Take away everything that may be harmful
   and give us whatever is good; through your Son,
   Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
   and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

READING & MEDITATION  

see next page

PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

A: 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.

VERSE OF THE DAY

A: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light
   for my path. (Psalm 119:105)

BENEDICTION

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
   and the love of God
   and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
   be with you all.

A: Amen
READING AND MEDITATION:

Second Sunday after Pentecost: Faith trusts in God’s power completely. No matter how impossible the problem, faith believes that God can and will help. Faith like that, given by the Holy Spirit, is not reserved exclusively for the direct descendants of Abraham. Rather, the gift of faith comes to every heart in the spiritual House of Israel.

As you study this week, seek to find the connecting theme in all the lessons by using Luther’s Four Big Barber Questions to ponder and discuss each individual reading:

1. What is God saying to me in this lesson?
2. For what does this lesson lead me to give thanks?
3. What sins does this lesson lead me to confess?
4. For what does this lesson lead me to pray?

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 7:1-10

In the centurion Jesus sees great faith in the heart of a foreigner. He trusted completely in Christ’s power and believed that Christ could help in any trial. Though he was a foreigner, the centurion can claim membership in the House of Israel because of the grace given to him through the Christ. Through heartache and tears, faith trusts not in its own strength, but in the power of him to whom it clings, the Lord Jesus.

SECOND LESSON: GALATIANS 1:1-10

This lesson begins a series of six readings from Paul’s letter to the Galatians. Paul pleads with the Galatians not to abandon the faith to which they have been called. Their faith is in the Lord who has rescued them from hell itself. How can they abandon the Gospel they have known? But in the midst of trial, know this: It is the Lord who brings salvation. We place the confidence of our hearts in him alone.

SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST LESSON: JOSHUA 5:13—6:5, 20

Standing before those huge walls, the instructions from the Lord must have seemed ridiculous. Yet the Lord had given his word. By faith the Israelites trusted the Lord’s marching orders and in spectacular fashion our faithful God delivered the city into their hands. Here was a chilling lesson for the people of Jericho. The Lord is all powerful and exacting in his judgment. Yet at the same, let us not forget his grace in the life of Rahab. What a lesson God teaches us at Jericho: He is all-powerful and exacting in his punishment, but boundlessly merciful to those like Rahab who cling to his promises in faith. By faith, a foreigner is brought into the House of Israel.

SUPPLEMENTAL SECOND LESSON: JAMES 1:2-12

How difficult it is to rejoice in the midst of trials! Yet, the Christian does just that. For the heart of faith knows that the Lord uses trials to strengthen our trust in him and will doubtlessly give generously, even an eternal crown of life. Put your faith in him who has spoken it, and it is done.

What major theme(s) connect(s) all the lessons?