Readings + St. Luke, Evangelist + Sunday, 18 October 2026

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you inspired your servant Luke to reveal in his gospel the love and healing power of your Son. Give your Church the same love and power to heal, and to proclaim your salvation among the nations to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our healer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

First Reading Isaiah 43:8-13

8 Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes,
who are deaf, yet have ears!
9 Let all the nations gather together,
and let the peoples assemble.
Who among them declared this,
and foretold to us the former things?
Let them bring their witnesses to justify them,
and let them hear and say, "It is true."
10 You are my witnesses, says the LORD,
and my servant whom I have chosen,
so that you may know and believe me
and understand that I am the One.
Before me no deity was formed,
nor shall there be any after me.
11 I, I am the LORD,
and besides me there is no savior.
12 I am the One who declared and saved and proclaimed,
not some strange deity among you;
and you are my witnesses, says the LORD, and I am God.
13 Indeed, since that day I am the One;
there is no one who can deliver from my hand;
I work and who can hinder it?

Psalmody Psalm 124

If the LORD had not been on our side, let Israel now say;
if the LORD had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us,
then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;
then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;
then would the raging waters have gone right over us.
Blessed be the LORD who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
Our help is in the name of the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.

Second Reading 2 Timothy 4:5-11

5 As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.
6 As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for the Lord's appearing.
9 Do your best to come to me soon, 10 for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. 11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me in my ministry.

Holy Gospel Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53

Luke writes: **1** 1 Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative about the events that have been fulfilled among us, 2 just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, 3 I, too, decided, as one having a grasp of everything from the start, to write a well-ordered account for you, most excellent Theophilus, 4 so that you may have a firm grasp of the words in which you have been instructed.

24 44 *Before he ascended, Jesus said to the disciples*
and their companions: "These are my words that I
spoke to you while I was still with you—that
everything written about me in the law of Moses,
the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."
45 Then he opened their minds to understand the
scriptures, 46 and said to them, "Thus it is written,
that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the
dead on the third day, 47 and that repentance and
forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his
name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
48 You are witnesses of these things.
49 And see, I am sending upon you what my
Father promised; so stay here in the city until you
have been clothed with power from on high."
50 Then Jesus led them out as far as Bethany,
and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.
51 While he was blessing them, he withdrew from
them and was carried up into heaven. 52 And they
worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with
great joy, 53 and they were continually in the
temple blessing God.