

Tuesday, July 12th

COLLECT: (*Remain Standing*)

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Isaiah 7:1-9 (*Please be seated*)

Reader: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

In the days of Ahaz son of Jotham son of Uzziah, king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and King Pekah son of Remaliah of Israel went up to attack Jerusalem but could not conquer it. When the house of David heard that Aram had allied itself with Ephraim, the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind.

Then the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go out to meet Ahaz, you and your son Shear-jashub, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the fuller’s field, and say to him: Take heed, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint because of these two smoldering stumps of firebrands, because of the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram and the son of Remaliah. Because Aram—with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah—has plotted evil against you, saying, ‘Let us go up against Judah and terrify it and conquer it for ourselves and make the son of Tabeel king in it’; therefore thus says the Lord GOD:

It shall not stand,
and it shall not come to pass.
For the head of Aram is Damascus,
and the head of Damascus is Rezin.

(Within sixty-five years Ephraim will be shattered, no longer a people.)

The head of Ephraim is Samaria,
and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah.
If you do not stand firm in faith,
you shall not stand at all.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 12

Reader: Let us pray together the words of Psalm 12.

¹ Help, O LORD, for there is no longer
anyone who is godly;
the faithful have disappeared from
humankind.
² They utter lies to each other;
with flattering lips and a deceitful heart
they speak.
³ May the LORD cut off all flattering lips,
the tongue that makes great boasts,
⁴ those who say, "With our tongues we
will prevail;
our lips are our own—who is our
master?"
⁵ "Because the poor are despoiled,
because the needy groan,

I will now rise up," says the LORD;
"I will place them in the safety for
which they long."
⁶ The promises of the LORD are promises
that are pure,
silver refined in a furnace on the
ground,
purified seven times.
⁷ You, O LORD, will protect us;
you will guard us from this generation
forever.
⁸ On every side the wicked prowl,
as vileness is exalted among
humankind.

Matthew 11:20-24 *(Please stand as you are able)*

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done because they did not repent. "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum,

will you be exalted to heaven?

No, you will be brought down to Hades.

"For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you."

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ