Christ Episcopal Church

Kensington, Maryland

**Readings for Sunday, October 28, 2018**

***~ Way of Love: Go ~***

**The Collect of the Day**

**Jesus calls his disciples to give, forgive, teach and heal in his name. Open our hearts this evening to the blessing of your love, and by your spirit, empower us to bless everyone we meet, practice generosity and compassion, and proclaim the gospel in our lives with hopeful words and selfless actions. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

**First Reading** *Jonah**3:1-10*

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ‘Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.’ So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, ‘Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!’ And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.  
  
When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: ‘By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.’   
  
When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and God did not do it.

**Psalm 41:1-4**

1 Happy are they who consider the poor and needy! \*  
 the LORD will deliver them in the time of trouble.  
  
2 The LORD preserves them and keeps them alive,  
so that they may be happy in the land; \*  
 the LORD does not hand them over to the will of their enemies.  
   
3 The LORD sustains them on their sickbed \*  
 and ministers to them in their illness.  
   
4 I said, "LORD, be merciful to me; \*  
 heal me, for I have sinned against you."

**Second Reading** *1 John**3:11, 18-14*

For this is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from God whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what is pleasing in God's sight. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as God has commanded us. All who obey the commandments abide in God, and God abides in them. And by this we know that God abides in us, by the Spirit given to us.

**The Gospel** *Luke**10:25-37*

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A lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live. But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, “Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.”Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?’ He said, ‘The one who showed him mercy.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise.’