

**SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS AT HOME WORSHIP**  
**ROMAN CENTURION & RAISING THE WIDOW'S SON**  
**FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious God, help us to show love and empathy to those around us. Open our eyes to see what others are going through, and guide us to care for them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

**PSALM 119:105-107**

<sup>105</sup>Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

<sup>106</sup>I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.

<sup>107</sup>I am severely afflicted; give me life, O Lord, according to your word.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 7: 1-17**

After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. <sup>2</sup>A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death. <sup>3</sup>When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. <sup>4</sup>When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy of having you do this for him, <sup>5</sup>for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us." <sup>6</sup>And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; <sup>7</sup>therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. <sup>8</sup>For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it." <sup>9</sup>When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." <sup>10</sup>When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

<sup>11</sup>Soon afterwards he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. <sup>12</sup>As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. <sup>13</sup>When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep." <sup>14</sup>Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!"



<sup>15</sup>The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. <sup>16</sup>Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favorably on his people!" <sup>17</sup>This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

### **REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL BY ASSISTING MINISTER JOHN YARBERRY**

<sup>107</sup>I am severely afflicted; give me life, O Lord, according to your word. The Bible, the Word, is the story of life and death, light and darkness. The Bible is an historical account of the life and death struggles of individuals, nations, and ultimately the world.

In the beginning it started with Cain and Abel. Think of the stories of Joseph, Moses, David, and so on, where death is a critical element to the story. These stories of death ultimately culminate in Jesus's crucifixion.

<sup>105</sup>Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Are these stories where death is so prominent also a source of light and life? God showed grace to Cain by banishing him, but then protecting him from a violent death. Joseph showed grace to his brothers, forgave them, and saved them, and his family from starvation. Moses killed an Egyptian official, buried him in the desert, and went on to lead the Israelites to freedom. The story of David and Bathsheba includes murder, for lust. Yet God, after the prophet Nathan confronts David, and David repents, forgives David.

What can we learn by reading and meditating on God's word? Could it be that life involves death and darkness, no matter who you are? Could it be that when there is darkness in the world, or any situation, there is always also God's light?

Consider the death of Jesus, the human yet fully God, when he says "forgive them for they do not know what they are doing", and in John 8:12 "I am the light of the world." Out of his death, came life for the world, out of the darkness that descended at the moment he breathed his last, an eternal life giving light was kindled!

Amen

**HYMN OF THE DAY** | WE COME TO YOU FOR HEALING, LORD

ELW #617

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/WHTJHPj-p1s?FEATURE=SHARED](https://youtu.be/WHTJHPj-p1s?feature=shared)

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *(A brief silence).*

Help us to live in humility and recognize our dependence on you. May we be continually in awe of your mercy and power. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Many parts of creation are suffering. Bring rain where there is drought, and relief where there have been too many storms. Nourish the earth and all that you have made. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up doctors, nurses, and all medical staff who care for those who are ill. Guide them in their work, and be present in all that they do. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grant comfort and peace to all who cry out to you for help. Strengthen the hearts and bodies of all who face difficulties. We pray especially for Rick and Kelly, Terry Schreier, Pastor Phil, Jim and Sally, Dave, Dorothy, Clover and all those we lift through our Prayer Chain. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all peoples to heed your call for justice, mercy, and compassion. Incline the hearts of the leaders of our country to align with your vision. Inspire those who have power to lead by example, seeking peace and understanding and empower us to trust that you will guide them. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Provide refugees and all displaced peoples with safety, comfort, and new opportunities and communities. May they find deep welcome and hospitality wherever they go. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our ability to care for one another. Let us love, not in words or speech, but in truth and action. Strengthen and equip us to care for those in need through the ministries of our community: Pardes Levavot, Niwot United Methodist, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal, Valmont Presbyterian, the Community Infant Program, the Little Free Pantry, All Roads of Boulder, Rise Against Suicide, and the other acts of kindness we share with one another. Use us to share Christ's love with our neighbors in need, especially those who are lost, poor, abused, forgotten, silenced, or avoided. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the work of the Joshua School and organizations like them. Empower those who nurture the minds, bodies and spirits of children and adults living on the Autism Spectrum. Help us to help them reach their fullest potential. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations now engaged in war. In the steadfastness of your love, hasten the day of peace. Look with mercy on those exposed to hatred, conflict, and death. Show compassion to the dying and those who have lost loved ones and the safety of home. In your mercy, remove all causes and occasions of war. Incline the hearts of all people to follow the path to peace and justice, that war may cease and reconciliation may come. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember with love and longing those who have been a part of this congregation in years past. Thank you for their faithfulness and for working through their lives to reach us today. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your mercy and grace, we lift up all of our prayers to you. **Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION & BLESSING**

We rejoice in God's steadfast presence in our lives, and in God's unique presence in the life of Jesus of Nazareth – in all his life manifesting the peace, love, and justice of God. Come to us, Lord Jesus. Be born in us – in our hearts, our minds, our lives. May the light of your life be kindled in us and lead us to the shining truth of God with us, God for us, God in us. **Amen.**

### **SHEPHERD CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### **WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9– FEBRUARY 16, 2025**

#### **Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> – Roman Centurion/Raising the Widow's Son**

9:30 a.m. Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion  
Coffee and Conversation immediately following worship

#### **Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 p.m.-Shepherd Council Meeting by Zoom

#### **Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**

11:00 a.m. - Amazing Grace Bible Study:

Sermon on the Mount: Jesus' Alternative Plan

#### **Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> -Happy Valentine's Day!**

7:00 a.m. – Men's Zoom Breakfast Bible Study

5:00 p.m. – Friday Night Perspectives Gathering

#### **Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> – More than a Prophet**

9:30 a.m. – Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion  
Interfaith Harmony Discussion & Sharing during Coffee  
and Conversation

**FEBRUARY**  
**BIRTHDAYS**  
JANICE I. 2/6  
ELIZABETH H. 2/15  
KATHY W. 2/15  
BECCA B. 2/21  
CAROL N. 2/22  
CAROLINE M. 2/24



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.**

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all.

Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

# DAILY NARRATIVE LECTIONARY READINGS: WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9, 2025

## **Monday, February 10, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-84-21-jesus-speaks-in-more-parables2025>

Luke 8:4-21 Jesus Speaks in More Parables

## **Tuesday, February 11, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-822-39-jesus-calms-a-storm-and-heals-the-gerasene-demoniac2025>

Luke 8:22-39 Jesus Calms a Storm and Heals the Gerasene Demoniac

## **Wednesday, February 12, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-840-56-jairus-plea-and-a-woman-restored2025>

Luke 8:40-56 Jairus' Plea and a Woman Restored

## **Thursday, February 13, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-91-9-jesus-sends-out-disciples2025>

Luke 9:1-9 Jesus Sends Out Disciples

## **Friday, February 14, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-910-17-jesus-feeds-the-50002025>

Luke 9:10-17 Jesus Feeds the 5000

## **Saturday, February 15, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-918-27-peters-confession2025>

Luke 9:18-27 Peter's Confession

## **Sunday, February 16, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-718-35-more-than-a-prophet2025>

Luke 7:18-35 More Than a Prophet

