**Readings and Prayers for Sunday 18th October 2020: St Luke the Evangelist**

**Prayer of the Day**

God of the gathering storm,

calling us to announce

the nearness of your rule;

we praise you for the good news of Luke,

for stories of searching love

and grace found in the stranger and foreigner;

of women of strength and rebellion

and men called from the margins;

may we be bearers of that word

to a world hungry for you;

through Jesus Christ, who feasted with sinners. **Amen.**

**Reading 1: Acts 16:6-12a**

They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 1:1-4**

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

**Post-Communion Prayer**

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost

sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles

with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,

filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:

by the power of the same Spirit

strengthen us to witness to your truth

and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**