

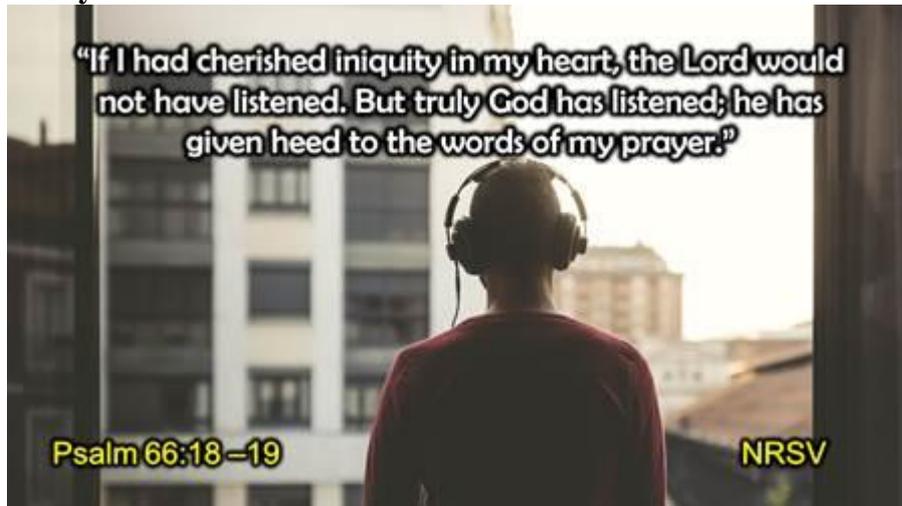
Hi everyone

Sorry for the brief introduction today

### **Worship**

This week we will be joining the synod (state) wide worship again, but I will add a local touch or two to the service and send the link to you all Saturday or Friday.

### **Today's Reflection**



*"If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer." (Psalm 66:18-19, NRSV)*

I am so grateful to live this side of the events of Easter. If I had to come to God in prayer with my needs, fears and hopes, without the living Lord Jesus and without the gift of the Spirit I would not have much hope. I am no worse than most other people, maybe I am better than some, but I always bring at least a little bit of selfishness, greed, and pride with me when I pray. Maybe I don't "cherish iniquity" but my heart is not pure.

This psalm makes the most sense if we hear it in the way Calvin and Luther did. Because many of the psalms were "of David" the Bible interpreters of the past tended to put these words into the mouth of Jesus. Jesus was a descendent of David, he was the Messiah or King who fulfilled the promises that were made to David his kingdom would never end, and one of his descendants would rule forever. The New Testament sometimes calls him the "Son of David".

My prayer is heard by God, and your prayer is heard by God because we come with Jesus, the Son of God, Son of Man (human one), and the Son of David. He had no iniquity in his heart. He has a perfect relationship with the Spirit and with the Father. Therefore "approach the throne of grace with boldness".

*God, I know you hear my prayer because I come with Jesus. In his heart there is no iniquity. We are so grateful that you sent him and that he willingly gives himself for us. In him and with him, we pray. Amen.*

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Yours in Jesus

Andrew

Rev. Andrew Gillies