



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
CANTERBURY

Readings and Psalms for
Morning Prayer Services
according to
The Anglican Prayer book
of Australia

17-23 August 2020

Monday 17 August

Psalm 106.1-24

- 1 Praise the Lord;
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Who can express the mighty acts of the Lord:
or fully voice his praise?
- 3 Blessed are those who act according to justice:
who at all times do the right.
- 4 Remember me, O Lord,
when you visit your people with your favour:
and come to me also with your salvation,
- 5 That I may see the prosperity of your chosen:
that I may rejoice with the rejoicing of your people,
and exult with those who are your own.
- 6 We have sinned like our ancestors:
we have acted perversely and done wrong.
- 7 Our forebears when they were in Egypt:
took no heed of your wonders;
- 8 They did not remember
the multitude of your loving-kindnesses:
but they rebelled at the Red Sea.
- 9 Nevertheless, he saved them for his name's sake:
that he might make known his power.
- 10 He commanded the Red Sea, and it dried up:
and he led them through the deep as through a desert.
- 11 He delivered them from the hand of their adversary:
and redeemed them from the power of the enemy.
- 12 The waters closed over their oppressors:
so that not one was left alive.
- 13 Then they believed his words:
and sang him songs of praise.
- 14 But in a little while they forgot what he had done:
and would wait for his counsel no more.
- 15 Greed took hold of them in the desert:
and they put God to the test in the wilderness.
- 16 So he gave them that which they desired:
but sent a wasting sickness among them.
- 17 Then they grew envious of Moses in the camp:
and of Aaron, the holy one of the Lord;
- 18 Whereupon the earth opened and swallowed up Dathan:
it closed over the company of Abiram;
- 19 Fire flared out against their number:
and flame devoured the ungodly.
- 20 At Horeb they made themselves a calf:
and bowed down in worship to an image.
- 21 And so they exchanged the glory of God:
for the likeness of an ox that eats hay.
- 22 They forgot God who was their saviour:
that had done such great things in Egypt,

- 23 Who had worked his wonders in the land of Ham:
and his terrible deeds at the Red Sea.
- 24 Therefore he thought to destroy them:
had not Moses his servant stood before him in the breach,
to turn away his wrath from destroying them.

Acts 18.1-17

¹ After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ² There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³ and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. ⁴ Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks. ⁵ When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with proclaiming the word, testifying to the Jews that the Messiah was Jesus. ⁶ When they opposed and reviled him, in protest he shook the dust from his clothes and said to them, ‘Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.’ ⁷ Then he left the synagogue and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshipper of God; his house was next door to the synagogue. ⁸ Crispus, the official of the synagogue, became a believer in the Lord, together with all his household; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul became believers and were baptized. ⁹ One night the Lord said to Paul in a vision, ‘Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent; ¹⁰ for I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, for there are many in this city who are my people.’ ¹¹ He stayed there for a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. ¹² But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal. ¹³ They said, ‘This man is persuading people to worship God in ways that are contrary to the law.’ ¹⁴ Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, ‘If it were a matter of crime or serious villainy, I would be justified in accepting the complaint of you Jews; ¹⁵ but since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves; I do not wish to be a judge of these matters.’ ¹⁶ And he dismissed them from the tribunal. ¹⁷ Then all of them seized Sosthenes, the official of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of these things.

Tuesday 18 August

Psalm 107.1-22

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
for his loving mercy is for ever.
- 2 Let the Lord's redeemed say so:
whom he has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,
- 3 And gathered in from every land,
from the east and from the west:
from the north and from the south.
- 4 Some went astray in the wilderness and in the desert:
and found no path to an inhabited city;
- 5 They were hungry and thirsty:
and their heart fainted within them.
- 6 Then they cried to the Lord in their distress:
and he took them out of their trouble.
- 7 He led them by the right path:
till they came to an inhabited city.
- 8 Let them thank the Lord for his goodness:
and for the wonders that he does
for the children of Adam;
- 9 For he satisfies the thirsty:
and fills the hungry with good things.
- 10 Some sat in darkness and in deadly shadow:
bound fast in affliction and iron,
- 11 Because they had rebelled against the words of God:
and scorned the purposes of the Most High.
- 12 So he bowed down their hearts with affliction:
they tripped headlong, with none to help them.
- 13 Then they cried to the Lord in their distress:
and he took them out of their trouble.
- 14 He brought them out from darkness and deadly shadow:
and broke their chains in two.
- 15 Let them thank the Lord for his goodness:
and for the wonders that he does
for the children of Adam;
- 16 For he shatters the doors of bronze:
and cleaves the bars of iron.
- 17 Fools were far gone in transgression:
and because of their sins were afflicted.
- 18 They sickened at any food:
and had come to the gates of death.
- 19 Then they cried to the Lord in their distress:
and he took them out of their trouble.
- 20 He sent his word and healed them:
and saved their life from the Pit.
- 21 Let them thank the Lord for his goodness:
and for the wonders that he does
for the children of Adam;
- 22 Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving:
and tell what he has done with shouts of joy.

Acts 18.18-28

¹⁸ After staying there for a considerable time, Paul said farewell to the believers and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had his hair cut, for he was under a vow. ¹⁹ When they reached Ephesus, he left them there, but first he himself went into the synagogue and had a discussion with the Jews. ²⁰ When they asked him to stay longer, he declined; ²¹ but on taking leave of them, he said, 'I will return to you, if God wills.' Then he set sail from Ephesus. ²² When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up to Jerusalem and greeted the church, and then went down to Antioch. ²³ After spending some time there he departed and went from place to place through the region of Galatia and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples. ²⁴ Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures. ²⁵ He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. ²⁶ He began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately. ²⁷ And when he wished to cross over to Achaia, the believers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. On his arrival he greatly helped those who through grace had become believers, ²⁸ for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the scriptures that the Messiah is Jesus.

Wednesday 19 August

Psalms 110; 111

110

- 1 The Lord said to my lord:
 'Sit at my right hand,
 until I make your enemies your footstool.'
- 2 The Lord commits to you the sceptre of your power:
 reign from Zion in the midst of your enemies.
- 3 Noble are you, from the day of your birth
upon the holy hill:
 radiant are you, even from the womb,
 in the morning dew of your youth.
- 4 The Lord has sworn and will not turn back:
 'You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.'
- 5 The king shall stand at your right hand, O Lord:
 and shatter kings in the day of his wrath.
- 6 Glorious in majesty, he shall judge among the nations:
 and shatter heads over a wide land.
- 7 He shall slake his thirst from the brook beside the way:
 therefore shall he lift up his head.

111

- 1 O praise the Lord. I will praise the Lord
with my whole heart:
 in the company of the upright
 and among the congregation.
- 2 The works of the Lord are great:
 and studied by all who take delight in them.
- 3 His deeds are majestic and glorious:
 and his righteousness stands for ever.
- 4 His marvellous acts have won him a name
to be remembered:
 the Lord is gracious and merciful.
- 5 He gives food to those that fear him:
 he remembers his covenant for ever.
- 6 He showed his people the power of his acts:
 in giving them the heritage of the heathen.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just:
 and all his commandments are sure;
- 8 They stand firm for ever and ever:
 they are done in faithfulness and in truth.
- 9 He sent redemption to his people,
he ordained his covenant for ever:
 holy is his name and worthy to be feared.
- 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
and of good understanding are those
that keep his commandments:
 his praise shall endure for ever.

Acts 19.1-20

¹ While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ² He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' ³ Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' ⁴ Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— ⁷ altogether there were about twelve of them. ⁸ He entered the synagogue and for three months spoke out boldly, and argued persuasively about the kingdom of God. ⁹ When some stubbornly refused to believe and spoke evil of the Way before the congregation, he left them, taking the disciples with him, and argued daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰ This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia, both Jews and Greeks, heard the word of the Lord. ¹¹ God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, ¹² so that when the handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were brought to the sick, their diseases left them, and the evil spirits came out of them. ¹³ Then some itinerant Jewish exorcists tried to use the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, 'I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims.' ¹⁴ Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. ¹⁵ But the evil spirit said to them in reply, 'Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?' ¹⁶ Then the man with the evil spirit leapt on them, mastered them all, and so overpowered them that they fled out of the house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ When this became known to all residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks, everyone was awestruck; and the name of the Lord Jesus was praised. ¹⁸ Also many of those who became believers confessed and disclosed their practices. ¹⁹ A number of those who practised magic collected their books and burned them publicly; when the value of these books was calculated, it was found to come to fifty thousand silver coins. ²⁰ So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

Thursday 20 August

Psalms 114; 115

114

- 1 When Israel came out of Egypt:
and the house of Jacob from among a people
of an alien tongue,
- 2 Judah became his sanctuary:
and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea saw that, and fled:
Jordan was driven back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams:
and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled:
O Jordan, that you were driven back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams:
and you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord:
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the rock into a pool of water:
and the flint-stone into a welling spring.

115

- 1 Not to us, O Lord, not to us
but to your name give the glory:
for the sake of your faithfulness
and your loving-kindness.
- 2 Why should the heathen say 'Where is their God?':
our God is in heaven, he does whatever he wills.
- 3 As for their idols, they are silver and gold:
the work of human hands.
- 4 They have mouths, but speak not:
they have eyes, but they cannot see.
- 5 They have ears, yet hear nothing:
they have noses, but cannot smell.
- 6 Hands they have, but handle nothing,
feet, but they do not walk:
they make no sound with their throats.
- 7 Those who make them shall be like them:
so shall everyone that trusts in them.
- 8 O Israel, trust in the Lord:
he is your help and your shield.
- 9 O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord:
he is your help and your shield.
- 10 You that fear the Lord, trust in the Lord:
he is your help and your shield.
- 11 The Lord has remembered us and he will bless us:
he will bless the house of Israel,
he will bless the house of Aaron.
- 12 He will bless all those that fear the Lord:
both high and low together.

- 13 May the Lord increase you greatly:
you and your children after you.
- 14 The blessing of the Lord be upon you:
he that made heaven and earth.
- 15 As for the heavens, they are the Lord's:
but the earth he has given to the children of Adam.
- 16 The dead do not praise the Lord:
nor do any that go down to silence.
- 17 But we will bless the Lord:
both now and for evermore. O praise the Lord.

Acts 19.21-41

²¹ Now after these things had been accomplished, Paul resolved in the Spirit to go through Macedonia and Achaia, and then to go on to Jerusalem. He said, 'After I have gone there, I must also see Rome.' ²² So he sent two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, to Macedonia, while he himself stayed for some time longer in Asia. ²³ About that time no little disturbance broke out concerning the Way.

²⁴ A man named Demetrius, a silversmith who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no little business to the artisans. ²⁵ These he gathered together, with the workers of the same trade, and said, 'Men, you know that we get our wealth from this business. ²⁶ You also see and hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost the whole of Asia this Paul has persuaded and drawn away a considerable number of people by saying that gods made with hands are not gods. ²⁷ And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be scorned, and she will be deprived of her majesty that brought all Asia and the world to worship her.' ²⁸ When they heard this, they were enraged and shouted, 'Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!' ²⁹ The city was filled with the confusion; and people rushed together to the theatre, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's travelling-companions. ³⁰ Paul wished to go into the crowd, but the disciples would not let him; ³¹ even some officials of the province of Asia, who were friendly to him, sent him a message urging him not to venture into the theatre. ³² Meanwhile, some were shouting one thing, some another; for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. ³³ Some of the crowd gave instructions to Alexander, whom the Jews had pushed forward.

And Alexander motioned for silence and tried to make a defence before the people. ³⁴ But when they recognized that he was a Jew, for about two hours all of them shouted in unison, 'Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!' ³⁵ But when the town clerk had quietened the crowd, he said, 'Citizens of Ephesus, who is there that does not know that the city of the Ephesians is the temple-keeper of the great Artemis and of the statue that fell from heaven? ³⁶ Since these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rash. ³⁷ You have brought these men here who are neither temple-robbers nor blasphemers of our goddess.

³⁸ If therefore Demetrius and the artisans with him have a complaint against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls; let them bring charges there against one another. ³⁹ If there is anything further you want to know, it must be settled in the regular assembly. ⁴⁰ For we are in danger of being charged with rioting today, since there is no cause that we can give to justify this commotion.' ⁴¹ When he had said this, he dismissed the assembly.

Friday 21 August

Psalms 121; 122; 123

121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills:
but where shall I find help?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord:
who has made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer your foot to stumble:
and he who watches over you will not sleep.
- 4 Be sure he who has charge of Israel:
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord himself is your keeper:
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand;
- 6 The sun shall not strike you by day:
nor shall the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord will defend you from all evil:
it is he who will guard your life.
- 8 The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:
from this time forward for evermore.

122

- 1 I was glad when they said to me:
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'
- 2 And now our feet are standing:
within your gates, O Jerusalem;
- 3 Jerusalem which is built as a city:
where the pilgrims gather in unity.
- 4 There the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord:
as he commanded Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
- 5 There are set thrones of judgement:
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
may those who love you prosper.
- 7 Peace be within your walls:
and prosperity in your palaces.
- 8 For the sake of my kindred and companions:
I will pray that peace be with you.
- 9 For the sake of the house of the Lord our God:
I will seek for your good.

123

- 1 To you I lift up my eyes:
you who are enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master:
or as the eyes of a maid toward the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God:
until he show us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have had our fill of derision.
- 5 Our souls overflow with the mockery of those at ease:
and with the contempt of the proud.

Acts 20.1-16

¹ After the uproar had ceased, Paul sent for the disciples; and after encouraging them and saying farewell, he left for Macedonia. ² When he had gone through those regions and had given the believers much encouragement, he came to Greece, ³ where he stayed for three months. He was about to set sail for Syria when a plot was made against him by the Jews, and so he decided to return through Macedonia. ⁴ He was accompanied by Sopater son of Pyrrhus from Beroea, by Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, by Gaius from Derbe, and by Timothy, as well as by Tychicus and Trophimus from Asia. ⁵ They went ahead and were waiting for us in Troas; ⁶ but we sailed from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and in five days we joined them in Troas, where we stayed for seven days. ⁷ On the first day of the week, when we met to break bread, Paul was holding a discussion with them; since he intended to leave the next day, he continued speaking until midnight. ⁸ There were many lamps in the room upstairs where we were meeting. ⁹ A young man named Eutychus, who was sitting in the window, began to sink off into a deep sleep while Paul talked still longer. Overcome by sleep, he fell to the ground three floors below and was picked up dead. ¹⁰ But Paul went down, and bending over him took him in his arms, and said, 'Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him.' ¹¹ Then Paul went upstairs, and after he had broken bread and eaten, he continued to converse with them until dawn; then he left. ¹² Meanwhile they had taken the boy away alive and were not a little comforted. ¹³ We went ahead to the ship and set sail for Assos, intending to take Paul on board there; for he had made this arrangement, intending to go by land himself. ¹⁴ When he met us in Assos, we took him on board and went to Mitylene. ¹⁵ We sailed from there, and on the following day we arrived opposite Chios. The next day we touched at Samos, and the day after that we came to Miletus. ¹⁶ For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; he was eager to be in Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.

Saturday 22 August

Psalm 118.1-18

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim:
that his mercy endures for ever.
- 3 Let the house of Aaron proclaim:
that his mercy endures for ever.
- 4 Let those who fear the Lord proclaim:
that his mercy endures for ever.
- 5 In my danger I called to the Lord:
he answered and set me free.
- 6 The Lord is on my side, I shall not fear:
what can flesh and blood do to me?
- 7 The Lord is at my side as my helper:
I shall see the downfall of my enemies.
- 8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord:
than to trust to flesh and blood:
- 9 It is better to take refuge in the Lord:
than to put your trust in princes.
- 10 All the nations surrounded me:
but in the name of the Lord I drove them back.
- 11 They surrounded, they surrounded me on every side:
but in the name of the Lord I drove them back.
- 12 They swarmed about me like bees,
they blazed like fire among the thorns:
in the name of the Lord I drove them back.
- 13 I was pressed so hard that I almost fell:
but the Lord was my helper.
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song:
and has become my salvation.
- 15 The sounds of joy and deliverance:
are in the tents of the righteous.
- 16 The right hand of the Lord does mighty things:
the right hand of the Lord raises up.
- 17 I shall not die but live:
and proclaim the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has disciplined me hard:
but he has not given me over to death.

Acts 20.17-38

¹⁷ From Miletus he sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him. ¹⁸ When they came to him, he said to them: 'You yourselves know how I lived among you the entire time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears, enduring the trials that came to me through the plots of the Jews. ²⁰ I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house, ²¹ as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus. ²² And now, as a captive to the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me. ²⁴ But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God's grace. ²⁵ 'And now I know that none of you, among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ever see my face again. ²⁶ Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you, ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. ²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. ²⁹ I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. ³² And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. ³³ I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. ³⁴ You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. ³⁵ In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." ' ³⁶ When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed. ³⁷ There was much weeping among them all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, ³⁸ grieving especially because of what he had said, that they would not see him again. Then they brought him to the ship.

Sunday 23 August

Psalm 138

- 1 I will give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart:
even before the gods will I sing your praises.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name:
because of your faithfulness and your loving-kindness,
for you have made your name and your word
supreme over all things.
- 3 At a time when I called to you, you gave me answer:
and put new strength within my soul.
- 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord:
for they have heard the words of your mouth;
- 5 And they shall sing of the ways of the Lord:
that the glory of the Lord is great.
- 6 For though the Lord is exalted, he looks upon the lowly:
and he comprehends the proud from afar.
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of danger,
yet will you preserve my life:
you will stretch out your hand against the fury of my
enemies, and your right hand shall save me.
- 8 The Lord will complete his purpose for me:
your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever;
do not forsake the work of your own hands.

Romans 11.28–36

²⁸ As regards the gospel they are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors;

²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience,

³¹ so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy.

³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

³³ O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴ 'For who has known the mind of the Lord?

Or who has been his counsellor?'

³⁵ 'Or who has given a gift to him,
to receive a gift in return?'

³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory for ever. Amen.

