



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
CANTERBURY

Readings and Psalms for
Morning Prayer Services

according to

The Anglican Prayer book
of Australia

26 October - 1 November 2020

Monday 26 October

Psalms 137.1-9; 138

137

- 1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept:
when we remembered Zion.
- 2 As for our harps we hung them up:
upon the trees that are in that land.
- 3 For there those who led us away captive
required of us a song:
and those who had despoiled us demanded mirth,
saying 'Sing us one of the songs of Zion.'
- 4 How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?
- 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem:
let my right hand forget its mastery.
- 6 Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth:
if I do not remember you,
if I do not prefer Jerusalem above my chief joy.
- 7 Remember, O Lord, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem:
how they said 'Down with it, down with it,
raze it to its foundations.'
- 8 O daughter of Babylon, you that lay waste:
happy shall he be who serves you as you have served us;
- 9 Happy shall he be who takes your little ones:
and dashes them against the stones.

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.

Matthew 18.1-14

¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' ² He called a child, whom he put among them, ³ and said, 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. ⁶ 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷ Woe to the world because of stumbling-blocks! Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to the one by whom the stumbling-block comes! ⁸ 'If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than to have two hands or two feet and to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰ 'Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven. ¹² What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴ So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.

Tuesday 27 October

Psalm 140

- 1 Deliver me, O Lord, from evildoers:
and preserve me from the violent.
- 2 Who devise mischief in their hearts:
who stir up enmity day by day.
- 3 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent's:
and the venom of asps is under their lips.
- 4 Keep me, O Lord, from the power of the wicked:
preserve me from the violent,
who think to thrust me from my course.
- 5 The arrogant have laid a snare for me,
and rogues have stretched the net:
they have set traps along my way.
- 6 But I have said to the Lord 'You are my God':
hear, O Lord, the voice of my pleading.
- 7 O Lord my God and my sure stronghold:
you have covered my head in the day of battle.
- 8 Do not fulfil, O Lord, the desire of the wicked:
nor further the evil that they have devised.
- 9 Let not those that beset me lift their heads:
but let the mischief that is on their lips bury them.
- 10 Let hot burning coals be poured upon them:
let them be plunged into that miry pit
from which they shall never arise.
- 11 Let no one of evil tongue find footing in the land:
the evil, the violent—let them be hunted to the end.]
- 12 I know that the Lord will work justice for the oppressed:
and right judgements for the poor.
- 13 Surely the righteous shall have cause to praise your name:
and the just shall dwell in your sight.

Matthew 18.15-35

¹⁵ 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.' ²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²² Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

Wednesday 28 October

Psalms 125; 126

125

- 1 Those who put their trust in the Lord
shall be as Mount Zion:
 which cannot be shaken, but endures for ever.
- 2 As the mountains stand about Jerusalem,
so stands the Lord about his people:
 from this time forward for evermore.
- 3 For the sceptre of wickedness shall have no sway
over the land apportioned to the righteous:
 lest the righteous set their hands to do evil.
- 4 Do good, O Lord, to those who are good:
 to those that are upright in heart.
- 5 As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
let the Lord lead them away with the evildoers:
 and in Israel let there be peace.

126

- 1 When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion:
 then were we like those restored to life.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter:
 and our tongue with singing.
- 3 Then said they among the heathen:
 ‘The Lord has done great things for them.’
- 4 Truly the Lord has done great things for us:
 and therefore we rejoiced.
- 5 Turn again our fortunes, O Lord:
 as the streams return to the dry south.
- 6 Those who sow in tears:
 shall reap with songs of joy.
- 7 They that go out weeping, bearing the seed:
 shall come again in gladness,
 bringing their sheaves with them.

Ephesians 2.11-22

¹¹ So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision'—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

Thursday 29 October

Psalm 145

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my king:
I will bless your name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you:
and praise your name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord, and wonderfully worthy to be praised:
his greatness is past searching out.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another:
and declare your mighty acts.
- 5 As for me, I will be talking
of the glorious splendour of your majesty:
I will tell the story of your marvellous works.
- 6 All people shall speak of the power of your terrible deeds:
and I will proclaim your greatness.
- 7 Their lips shall flow with the remembrance
of your abundant goodness:
they shall shout for joy at your righteousness.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate:
slow to anger and of great goodness.
- 9 The Lord is loving to every one of us:
and his mercy is over all his works.
- 10 All creation praises you, O Lord:
and your faithful servants bless your name.
- 11 They speak of the glory of your kingdom:
and tell of your great might,
- 12 That the whole earth may know your mighty acts:
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom:
and your dominion endures through all generations.
- 14 The Lord upholds all those who stumble:
and raises up those that are bowed down.
- 15 The eyes of all look to you in hope:
and you give them their food in due season;
- 16 You open wide your hand:
and fill all things living with your bounteous gift.
- 17 The Lord is just in all his ways:
and faithful in all his dealings.
- 18 The Lord is near to all who call upon him:
to all who call upon him in truth.
- 19 He will fulfil the desire of those that fear him:
he will hear their cry, and save them.
- 20 The Lord preserves all those that love him:
but the wicked he will utterly destroy.
- 21 My mouth shall speak the praises of the Lord:
and let all flesh bless his holy name, for ever and ever.

Matthew 19.16-30

¹⁶ Then someone came to him and said, 'Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?' ¹⁷ And he said to him, 'Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.' ¹⁸ He said to him, 'Which ones?' And Jesus said, 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; ¹⁹ Honour your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' ²⁰ The young man said to him, 'I have kept all these; what do I still lack?' ²¹ Jesus said to him, 'If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' ²² When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions. ²³ Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. ²⁴ Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' ²⁵ When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, 'Then who can be saved?' ²⁶ But Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible.' ²⁷ Then Peter said in reply, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' ²⁸ Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹ And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. ³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

Friday 30 October

Psalms 148; 149

148

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord from heaven:
O praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all his angels:
O praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon:
praise him, all you stars of light.
- 4 Praise him, you highest heaven:
and you waters that are above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord:
for he commanded and they were made.
- 6 He established them for ever and ever:
he made an ordinance which shall not pass away.
- 7 O praise the Lord from the earth:
praise him, you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, mist and snow:
and storm-wind fulfilling his command;
- 9 Mountains and all hills:
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Beasts of the wild, and all cattle:
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth, and all peoples:
princes, and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens:
old folk and children together.
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord:
for his name alone is exalted.
- 14 His glory is above earth and heaven:
and he has lifted high the horn of his people.
- 15 Therefore he is the praise of all his servants:
of the children of Israel, a people that is near him. Praise the Lord.

149

- 1 O praise the Lord, and sing to the Lord a new song:
O praise him in the assembly of the faithful.
- 2 Let Israel rejoice in him that made him:
let the children of Zion be joyful in their king.
- 3 Let them praise him in the dance:
let them sing his praise with timbrel and with harp.
- 4 For the Lord takes delight in his people:
he adorns the meek with his salvation.
- 5 Let his faithful ones exult in his glory:
let them sing for joy upon their beds.
- 6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouths:
and a two-edged sword in their hands,
- 7 To execute vengeance on the nations:
and chastisement upon the peoples,

- 8 To bind their kings in chains:
and their nobles with fetters of iron,
9 To visit upon them the judgement that is decreed:
such honour belongs to all his faithful servants.
Praise the Lord.

Matthew 20.1-16

¹ 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴ and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷ They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³ But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

Saturday 31 October

Psalm 83.1-18

- 1 Hold not your peace, O God:
O God, be not silent or unmoved.
- 2 See how your enemies make uproar:
how those that hate you have lifted up their heads.
- 3 For they lay shrewd plots against your people:
they scheme against those whom you have cherished.
- 4 'Come', they say, 'let us destroy them,
that they may no longer be a nation:
that the very name of Israel
may be remembered no more.'
- 5 With one mind they conspire together:
they make alliance against you,
- 6 The tribes of Edom and the Ishmaelites:
the people of Moab and the Hagarites,
- 7 Gebal and Ammon and Amalek:
Philistia, and the inhabitants of Tyre;
- 8 Asshur also is joined with them:
and lends a friendly arm to the children of Lot.
- 9 Do to them as you did to Midian:
as to Sisera and Jabin at the river of Kishon,
- 10 Who were destroyed at Endor:
and became like dung for the earth.
- 11 Make their leaders as Oreb and Zeeb:
and all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna,
- 12 Who said 'Let us take possession:
let us seize the pastures of God.'
- 13 Make them like thistledown, my God:
or like chaff blown before the wind.
- 14 As fire consuming a thicket:
or as flame that sets the hillsides ablaze,
- 15 Pursue them with your tempest:
and terrify them with your storm-wind.
- 16 Cover their faces with shame, O Lord:
that they may seek your name.
- 17 Let them be disgraced and dismayed for ever:
let them be confounded and perish,]
- 18 That they may know that you, whose name is the Lord:
are alone the Most High over all the earth.

Matthew 20.17-34

¹⁷ While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and said to them on the way, ¹⁸ 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death; ¹⁹ then they will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified; and on the third day he will be raised.'

²⁰ Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. ²¹ And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' ²² But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' ²³ He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.' ²⁴ When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. ²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ²⁶ It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; ²⁸ just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.' ²⁹ As they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. ³⁰ There were two blind men sitting by the roadside. When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, 'Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!' ³¹ The crowd sternly ordered them to be quiet; but they shouted even more loudly, 'Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!' ³² Jesus stood still and called them, saying, 'What do you want me to do for you?' ³³ They said to him, 'Lord, let our eyes be opened.' ³⁴ Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they regained their sight and followed him.

Sunday 1 November

Psalm 33

- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous:
for it befits the just to praise him.
- 2 Give the Lord thanks upon the harp:
and sing his praise to the lute of ten strings.
- 3 O sing him a new song:
make sweetest melody, with shouts of praise.
- 4 For the word of the Lord is true:
and all his works are faithful.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice:
the earth is filled with the loving-kindness of the Lord.
- 6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made:
and their numberless stars by the breath of his mouth.
- 7 He gathered the waters of the sea as in a water-skin:
and laid up the deep in his treasuries.
- 8 Let the whole earth fear the Lord:
and let all the inhabitants of the world
stand in awe of him.
- 9 For he spoke, and it was done:
he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The Lord frustrates the counsels of the nations:
he brings to nothing the devices of the peoples.
- 11 But the counsels of the Lord shall endure for ever:
the purposes of his heart from generation to generation.
- 12 Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord:
the people he chose to be his own possession.
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven
and surveys all the children of Adam:
he considers from his dwelling-place
all the inhabitants of the earth;
- 14 He who fashioned the hearts of them all:
and comprehends all that they do.
- 15 A king is not saved by a mighty army:
nor is a warrior delivered by much strength;
- 16 A horse is a vain hope as a deliverer:
nor can he rescue any by his great power.
- 17 But the eye of the Lord is on those that fear him:
on those that trust in his unfailing love,
- 18 To deliver them from death:
and to feed them in the time of dearth.
- 19 We have waited eagerly for the Lord:
for he is our help and our shield.
- 20 Surely our hearts shall rejoice in him:
for we have trusted in his holy name.
- 21 Let your merciful kindness be upon us, O Lord:
even as our hope is in you.

Revelation 19.1-10

¹ After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying,

‘Hallelujah!

Salvation and glory and power to our God,

² for his judgements are true and just;

he has judged the great whore

who corrupted the earth with her fornication,

and he has avenged on her the blood of his servants.’

³ Once more they said,

‘Hallelujah!

The smoke goes up from her for ever and ever.’

⁴ And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshipped

God who is seated on the throne, saying,

‘Amen. Hallelujah!’

⁵ And from the throne came a voice saying,

‘Praise our God,

all you his servants,

and all who fear him,

small and great.’

⁶ Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out,

‘Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God

the Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and exult

and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come,

and his bride has made herself ready;

⁸ to her it has been granted to be clothed

with fine linen, bright and pure’—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

⁹ And the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’ And he said to me, ‘These are true words of God.’

¹⁰ Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, ‘You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.’

