

Readings and Psalms for

Morning Prayer Services

according to

The Anglican Prayer book

of Australia

29 June - 5 July 2020

Monday 29 June

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.

Acts 14.1-7

¹ The same thing occurred in Iconium, where Paul and Barnabas went into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks became believers. ² But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. ³ So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who testified to the word of his grace by granting signs and wonders to be done through them. ⁴ But the residents of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews, and some with the apostles. ⁵ And when an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to maltreat them and to stone them, ⁶ the apostles learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country; ⁷ and there they continued proclaiming the good news.

Tuesday 30 June

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.

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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.

Acts 14.8-18

In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. 9 He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, ¹⁰ said in a loud voice, 'Stand upright on your feet.' And the man sprang up and began to walk. 11 When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, 'The gods have come down to us in human form! ¹² Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. 14 When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, 15 'Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. ¹⁶ In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; ¹⁷ yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy.' 18 Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

Wednesday 1 July

Psalm 27

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;

whom then shall I fear?:

the Lord is the stronghold of my life;

of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes,

come upon me to devour me:

they shall stumble and fall.

3 If an army encamp against me,

my heart shall not be afraid:

and if war should rise against me, yet will I trust.

4 One thing I have asked from the Lord,

which I will require:

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

5 To see the fair beauty of the Lord:

and to seek his will in his temple.

6 For he will hide me under his shelter

in the day of trouble:

and conceal me in the shadow of his tent, and set me high upon a rock.

7 And now he will lift up my head:

above my enemies round about me.

8 And I will offer sacrifices in his sanctuary

with exultation:

I will sing, I will sing praises to the Lord.

9 O Lord, hear my voice when I cry:

have mercy upon me and answer me.

10 My heart has said of you, 'Seek his face':

your face, Lord, I will seek.

11 Do not hide your face from me:

or thrust your servant aside in displeasure;

12 For you have been my helper:

do not cast me away or forsake me, O God of my salvation.

13 Though my father and my mother forsake me:

the Lord will take me up.

14 Teach me your way, O Lord:

and lead me in an even path, for they lie in wait for me.

15 Do not give me over to the will of my enemies:

for false witnesses have risen against me, and those who breathe out violence.

16 But I believe that I shall surely see

the goodness of the Lord:

in the land of the living.

17 O wait for the Lord;

stand firm and he will strengthen your heart:

and wait, I say, for the Lord.

John 12.35-47

³⁵ Jesus said to them, 'The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going.

³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of

light.'After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

³⁷ Although he had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in him.

This was to fulfil the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah:

'Lord, who has believed our message,

and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?'

³⁹ And so they could not believe, because Isaiah also said,

40 'He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart,

so that they might not look with their eyes, and understand with their heart and turn and I would heal them.'

Isaiah said this because he saw his glory and spoke about him.

⁴² Nevertheless many, even of the authorities, believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they did not confess it, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue;

⁴³ for they loved human glory more than the glory that comes from God.

⁴⁴ Then Jesus cried aloud: 'Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me.

⁴⁵ And whoever sees me sees him who sent me.

⁴⁶ I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness.

⁴⁷ I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

Thursday 2 July

Psalms	5;	6
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- 1 Hear my words, O Lord, give heed to my groaning: listen to my cry, you that are my king and my God.
- In the morning when I pray to you, surely you will hear my voice:

at daybreak I lay my prayers before you, and look up.

3 For you are not a God who

takes pleasure in wickedness:

nor can any evil dwell with you.

4 The boastful cannot stand in your sight: you hate all those that work mischief.

5 Those who speak lies you destroy: you abhor the treacherous, O Lord,

and those that are stained with blood.

6 But because of your great goodness

I will come into your house:

I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe and fear of you.

7 Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness, for my enemies lie in wait:
make straight your way before me.

8 For there is no truth in their mouth: and within they are eaten up by malice.

9 Their throat is an open sepulchre:

and their tongue speaks smooth and flattering words.

10 Destroy them, O God,

let them fall by their own contriving:

cast them out for their many offences, for they have rebelled against you.

11 But let all who put their trust in you rejoice:

let them shout with joy for ever.

Be the defender of those who love your name: let them exult because of you.

13 For you will bless, O Lord, those that are righteous: you will cover them with your favour as with a shield.

6

12

1 O Lord, rebuke me not in your indignation: nor chasten me in your fierce displeasure.

2 Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am weak:

O Lord, heal me, for my very bones are afraid.

3 My soul also is greatly troubled:

and you, Lord—how long will you delay?

4 Turn again, O Lord, and deliver my soul:

O save me for your mercy's sake.

5 For in death no one remembers you: and who can give you thanks from the grave?

- 6 I am wearied with my groaning:
 every night I drown my bed with weeping,
 and water my couch with my tears.
- 7 My eyes waste away for sorrow: they grow dim because of all my enemies.
- 8 Away from me, all you that do evil: for the Lord has heard the voice of my weeping.
- 9 The Lord has heard my supplication: the Lord will receive my prayer.
- 10 All my enemies shall be put to shame and greatly dismayed:

 they shall turn back and be confounded in a moment.

Acts 15.1-11

¹ Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, 'Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.' And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them. Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. ³ So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. 4 When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵ But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, 'It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses.' ⁶ The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, 'My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. 8 And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; 9 and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹ On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will. '

Friday 3 July

Psalm 34

1 I will bless the Lord continually:

his praise shall be always in my mouth.

2 Let my soul boast of the Lord:

the humble shall hear it and rejoice.

3 O praise the Lord with me:

let us exalt his name together.

4 For I sought the Lord's help and he answered:

and he freed me from all my fears.

5 Look towards him and be bright with joy:

your faces shall not be ashamed.

6 Here is a wretch who cried, and the Lord heard me: and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encamps round those who fear him: and delivers them in their need.

8 O taste and see that the Lord is good:

happy are they that hide in him!

9 Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones: for those who fear him never lack.

10 Lions may suffer want and go hungry:

but those who seek the Lord lack nothing good.

11 Come, my children, listen to me:

and I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Which of you relishes life:

wants time to enjoy good things?

13 Keep your tongue from evil:

and your lips from telling lies.

14 Turn from evil and do good:

15

seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of God are on the righteous: and his ears towards their cry.

16 The Lord sets his face against wrongdoers: to root out their memory from the earth.

17 The righteous cry; the Lord hears it:

and frees them from all their afflictions.

18 The Lord is close to those who are broken-hearted: and the crushed in spirit he saves.

19 The trials of the righteous are many:

but our God delivers us from them all.

20 He guards all our bones:

so that not one is broken.

21 Evil will slay the wicked:

and those who hate the righteous will be destroyed.

22 The Lord ransoms the lives of his servants:

and none who hide in him will be destroyed.

1 Peter 1.3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Saturday 4 July

Psalms	11;	12
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11

1 In the Lord I have found my refuge:

how then can you say to me

'Flee like a bird to the mountains;

2 'Look how the wicked make ready the bow, and notch their arrows upon the string:

to shoot from the darkness at the true of heart;

3 'If the foundations are destroyed:

what can the righteous do?'

4 The Lord is in his holy place,

the Lord is enthroned in heaven:

his eyes search out, his glance tries the children of Adam.

5 He tries the righteous and the wicked:

and those that delight in violence his soul abhors.

6 He will rain down coals of fire and brimstone upon the wicked:

a scorching wind shall be their cup to drink.

7 For the Lord is righteous and loves righteous acts: the upright shall see his face.

12

1 Help, Lord, for there is not one godly person left: the faithful have vanished from among the children of Adam.

2 Everyone tells lies to their neighbour:

they flatter with their lips,

but speak from a double heart.

3 If only the Lord would cut off all flattering lips: and the tongue that speaks so proudly!

4 They say 'By our tongues we shall prevail:

our lips are our servants—who is lord over us?'

5 Because of the oppression of the poor,

because of the groaning of the needy:

'I will arise', says the Lord,

'and set them in safety from those that snarl after them.'

6 The words of the Lord are pure, as silver refined in a crucible:

as gold that is seven times purified in the fire.

7 You will surely guard us, O Lord:

and shield us for ever from this evil generation,

8 Though the ungodly strut on every side:

though the vilest lord it over the children of Adam.

Acts 15.22-35

²² Then the apostles and the elders, with the consent of the whole church, decided to choose men from among their members and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers, ²³ with the following letter: 'The brothers, both the apostles and the elders, to the believers of Gentile origin in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. ²⁴ Since we have heard that certain persons who have gone out from us, though with no instructions from us, have said things to disturb you and have unsettled your minds, ²⁵ we have decided unanimously to choose representatives and send them to you, along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26 who have risked their lives for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷ We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. ²⁸ For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden than these essentials: ²⁹ that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.' 30 So they were sent off and went down to Antioch. When they gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. ³¹ When its members read it, they rejoiced at the exhortation. ³² Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the believers. 33 After they had been there for some time, they were sent off in peace by the believers to those who had sent them. ³⁵ But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, and there, with many others, they taught and proclaimed the word of the Lord.

Sunday 5 July

Psalm 145.8-14

- 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.

Romans 9.1-15

- ¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—
- ² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.
- ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh.
- ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;
- ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.
- ⁶ It is not as though the word of God had failed. For not all Israelites truly belong to Israel.
- ⁷ and not all of Abraham's children are his true descendants; but 'It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named after you.'
- ⁸ This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as descendants.
- ⁹ For this is what the promise said, 'About this time I will return and Sarah shall have a son.'
- ¹⁰ Nor is that all; something similar happened to Rebecca when she had conceived children by one husband, our ancestor Isaac.
- Even before they had been born or had done anything good or bad (so that God's purpose of election might continue,
- ¹² not by works but by his call) she was told, 'The elder shall serve the younger.'
- ¹³ As it is written,
- 'I have loved Jacob,
 - but I have hated Esau.'
- ¹⁴ What then are we to say? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means!
- ¹⁵ For he says to Moses,
- 'I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.'