



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
CANTERBURY

Readings and Psalms for
Morning Prayer Services
according to
The Anglican Prayer book
of Australia
1-7 February 2021

Monday 1 February

Psalm 74

- 1 O Lord our God, why cast us off so utterly:
 why does your anger burn
 against the sheep of your pasture?
- 2 Remember your congregation,
whom you took to yourself of old:
 the people that you redeemed to be your own possession,
 and Mount Zion where you have dwelt.
- 3 Rouse yourself and go to the utter ruins:
 to all the harm that the enemy has done in the sanctuary.
- 4 Your adversaries have made uproar
in the place appointed for your praise:
 they have set up their standards in triumph.
- 5 They have destroyed on every side:
 like those who take axes up to a thicket of trees.
- 6 All the carved woodwork they have broken down:
 and smashed it with hammers and hatchets.
- 7 They have set fire to your sanctuary:
 and defiled to the ground
 the dwelling-place of your name.
- 8 They have said in their hearts
‘Let us make havoc of them’:
 they have burned down
 all the holy places of God in the land.
- 9 We see no signs, there is not one prophet left:
 there is none who knows how long these things shall be.
- 10 How long shall the adversary taunt you, O God:
 shall the enemy blaspheme your name for ever?
- 11 Why do you hold back your hand:
 why do you keep your right hand in your bosom?
- 12 Yet God is my king from of old:
 who wrought deliverance upon the earth.
- 13 You divided the sea by your might:
 you shattered the heads of the dragons in the waters.
- 14 You crushed the heads of Leviathan:
 and gave him as food to the creatures of the desert waste.
- 15 You cleft open spring and fountain:
 you dried up the everflowing waters.
- 16 The day is yours, and so also is the night:
 you have established the moon and the sun.
- 17 You set all the boundaries of the earth:
 you created winter and summer.
- 18 Remember, O Lord, the taunts of the enemy:
 how a mindless people have blasphemed your name.
- 19 Do not give to the wild beasts the soul that praises you:
 do not forget for ever the life of your afflicted.

- 20 Look on all that you have made:
for it is full of darkness,
and violence inhabits the earth.
- 21 Let not the oppressed and reviled turn away rejected:
but let the poor and needy praise your name.
- 22 Arise, O God, plead your own cause:
remember how a mindless people taunt you all day long.
- 23 Do not forget the clamour of your adversaries:
or how the shouting of your enemies ascends continually.

Luke 2.1-7

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Tuesday 2 February

Psalm 8

- 1 O Lord our Governor:
 how glorious is your name in all the earth!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is yet recounted:
 by the mouths of babes and sucklings.
- 3 You have founded a strong defence
 against your adversaries:
 to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers:
 the moon and the stars which you have set in order,
- 5 What are we, that you should be mindful of us:
 what are we, that you should care for us?
- 6 Yet you have made us little less than gods:
 and have crowned us with glory and honour.
- 7 You have given us dominion over your handiwork:
 and have put all things in subjection beneath our feet,
- 8 All sheep and oxen:
 and all the creatures of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air and the fish of the sea:
 and everything that moves
 in the pathways of the great waters.
- 10 O Lord our Governor:
 how glorious is your name in all the earth!

Galatians 3.28-4.7

3 ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

4 ¹ My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; ² but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. ³ So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶ And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' ⁷ So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Wednesday 3 February

Psalm 78.16-38

- 16 But for all this they sinned yet more against him:
and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.
- 17 They wilfully put God to the test:
and demanded food for their appetite.
- 18 They spoke against God, and said:
'Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?
- 19 'He indeed struck the rock,
so that the waters gushed and the streams overflowed:
but can he also give bread,
or provide meat for his people?'
- 20 When the Lord heard it he was angry,
and a fire was kindled against Jacob:
his wrath blazed against Israel.
- 21 For they put no trust in God:
nor would they believe his power to save.
- 22 Then he commanded the clouds above:
and opened the doors of heaven.
- 23 He rained down manna for them to eat:
and gave them the grain of heaven.
- 24 So they ate the bread of angels:
and he sent them food in abundance.
- 25 He stirred up the south east wind in the heavens:
and guided it by his power.
- 26 He rained down meat upon them thick as dust:
and winged birds like the sands of the sea.
- 27 He made them fall into the midst of their camp:
and all about their tents.
- 28 So they ate and were well-filled:
for he had given them what they desired.
- 29 But before they had satisfied their craving:
while the food was still in their mouths,
- 30 The anger of God blazed up against them:
and he slew their strongest men,
and laid low the youth of Israel.
- 31 But for all this they sinned yet more:
and put no faith in his wonders.
- 32 So he ended their days like a breath:
and their years with sudden terror.
- 33 When he struck them down, then they sought him:
they turned, and sought eagerly for God.
- 34 They remembered that God was their rock:
that God Most High was their redeemer.
- 35 But they lied to him with their mouths:
and dissembled with their tongues;
- 36 For their hearts were not fixed upon him:
nor were they true to his covenant.

- 37 Yet he, being merciful, forgave their iniquity
and did not destroy them:
 many times he turned his anger aside,
 and would not wholly arouse his fury.
- 38 He remembered that they were but flesh:
 like a wind that passes, and does not return.

Luke 2.41-52

⁴¹ Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' ⁴⁹ He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

Thursday 4 February

Psalm 80

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you that led Joseph like a flock:
you that are enthroned upon the cherubim,
shine out in glory;
- 2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh:
stir up your power, and come to save us.
- 3 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts:
how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears:
and given them tears to drink in good measure.
- 6 You have made us the victim of our neighbours:
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.
- 8 You brought a vine out of Egypt:
you drove out the nations, and planted it in.
- 9 You cleared the ground before it:
and it struck root and filled the land.
- 10 The hills were covered with its shadow:
and its boughs were like the boughs of the great cedars.
- 11 It stretched out its branches to the sea:
and its tender shoots to the Great River.
- 12 Why then have you broken down its walls:
so that every passer-by can pluck its fruit?
- 13 The wild boar out of the woods roots it up:
and the locusts from the wild places devour it.
- 14 Turn to us again, O Lord of hosts:
look down from heaven, and see.
- 15 Bestow your care upon this vine:
the stock which your own right hand has planted.
- 16 As for those that burn it with fire and cut it down:
let them perish at the rebuke of your countenance.
- 17 Let your power rest on the man at your right hand:
on that son of man
whom you made so strong for yourself.
- 18 And so we shall not turn back from you:
give us life, and we will call upon your name.
- 19 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts:
show us the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.

Luke 3.1-14

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene,

² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” ’

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

⁹ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.’

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, ‘What then should we do?’

¹¹ In reply he said to them, ‘Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.’

¹² Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, ‘Teacher, what should we do?’

¹³ He said to them, ‘Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.’

¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.’

Friday 5 February

Psalms 82; 84

82

- 1 God has stood up in the council of heaven:
in the midst of the gods he gives judgement.
- 2 'How long will you judge unjustly:
and favour the cause of the wicked?
- 3 'Judge for the poor and fatherless:
vindicate the afflicted and oppressed.
- 4 'Rescue the poor and needy:
and save them from the hands of the wicked.
- 5 'They do not know, they do not understand,
they walk about in darkness:
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- 6 'Therefore I say, "Though you are gods:
and all of you children of the Most High,
- 7 "Nevertheless you shall die like a mortal:
and fall like one of the princes."
- 8 Arise, O God, and judge the earth:
for you shall take all nations as your possession.

84

- 1 How lovely is your dwelling-place:
O Lord God of hosts!
- 2 My soul has a desire and longing
to enter the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 3 The sparrow has found her a home,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even your altar, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are those who dwell in your house:
they will always be praising you.
- 5 Blessed are those whose strength is in you:
in whose heart are the highways to Zion;
- 6 Who, going through the valley of dryness,
find there a spring from which to drink:
till the autumn rain shall clothe it with blessings.
- 7 They go from strength to strength:
they appear, every one of them,
before the God of gods in Zion.
- 8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer:
give ear, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold, O God, him who reigns over us:
and look upon the face of your anointed.
- 10 One day in your courts is better than a thousand:
I would rather stand at the threshold
of the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

- 11 For the Lord God is a light and a shield,
the Lord gives favour and honour:
and no good thing will he withhold
from those who walk in innocence.
- 12 O Lord God of hosts:
blessed are those who put their trust in you.

Luke 3.15-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. ¹⁹ But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added to them all by shutting up John in prison. ²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Saturday 6 February

Psalm 86

- 1 Incline your ear to me, O God, and answer me:
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 Preserve my life, for I am faithful:
My God, save your servant who trusts in you.
- 3 Be merciful to me, O Lord:
for I call to you all the day long.
- 4 O make glad the soul of your servant:
for I put my hope in you, O Lord.
- 5 For you, Lord, are good and forgiving:
of great and continuing kindness
to all who call upon you.
- 6 Hear my prayer, O Lord:
and give heed to the voice of my supplication.
- 7 In the day of my trouble I call upon you:
for you will surely answer.
- 8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord:
nor are there any deeds like yours.
- 9 All the nations you have made
shall come and worship before you:
O Lord, they shall glorify your name.
- 10 For you are great and do marvellous things:
and you alone are God.
- 11 Show me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth:
let my heart delight to fear your name.
- 12 I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart:
and I will glorify your name for ever.
- 13 For great is your abiding love toward me:
and you have delivered my life
from the lowest depths of the grave.
- 14 The insolent, O God, have risen against me:
a ruthless band seek my life,
they have not set God before their eyes.
- 15 But you, Lord, are a God gracious and compassionate:
slow to anger, full of goodness and truth.
- 16 Turn to me and be merciful,
give your strength to your servant:
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 Show me some token of your goodness:
that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed,
because you, Lord, are my helper and my comforter.

Luke 3.23-38

²³ Jesus was about thirty years old when he began his work. He was the son (as was thought) of Joseph son of Heli, ²⁴ son of Matthat, son of Levi, son of Melchi, son of Jannai, son of Joseph, ²⁵ son of Mattathias, son of Amos, son of Nahum, son of Esli, son of Naggai, ²⁶ son of Maath, son of Mattathias, son of Semein, son of Josech, son of Joda, ²⁷ son of Joanan, son of Rhesa, son of Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, son of Neri, ²⁸ son of Melchi, son of Addi, son of Cosam, son of Elmadam, son of Er, ²⁹ son of Joshua, son of Eliezer, son of Jorim, son of Matthat, son of Levi, ³⁰ son of Simeon, son of Judah, son of Joseph, son of Jonam, son of Eliakim, ³¹ son of Melea, son of Menna, son of Mattatha, son of Nathan, son of David, ³² son of Jesse, son of Obed, son of Boaz, son of Sala, son of Nahshon, ³³ son of Amminadab, son of Admin, son of Arni, son of Hezron, son of Perez, son of Judah, ³⁴ son of Jacob, son of Isaac, son of Abraham, son of Terah, son of Nahor, ³⁵ son of Serug, son of Reu, son of Peleg, son of Eber, son of Shelah, ³⁶ son of Cainan, son of Arphaxad, son of Shem, son of Noah, son of Lamech, ³⁷ son of Methuselah, son of Enoch, son of Jared, son of Mahalaleel, son of Cainan, ³⁸ son of Enos, son of Seth, son of Adam, son of God.

Sunday 7 February

Psalm 147.12-20

- 12 Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem:
sing praises to your God, O Zion.
- 13 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates:
and blessed your children within you.
- 14 He makes peace within your borders:
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 15 He sends his command to the earth:
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 16 He gives snow like wool:
and scatters the hoar-frost like ashes.
- 17 He sprinkles his ice like morsels of bread:
and the waters harden at his frost.
- 18 He sends out his word and melts them:
he blows with his wind and the waters flow.
- 19 He made his word known to Jacob:
his statutes and judgements to Israel.
- 20 He has not dealt so with any other nation:
nor have they knowledge of his laws. Praise the Lord.

1 John 3.7-14

⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. ⁸ Everyone who commits sin is a child of the devil; for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ Those who have been born of God do not sin, because God's seed abides in them; they cannot sin, because they have been born of God. ¹⁰ The children of God and the children of the devil are revealed in this way: all who do not do what is right are not from God, nor are those who do not love their brothers and sisters. ¹¹ For this is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹² We must not be like Cain who was from the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³ Do not be astonished, brothers and sisters, that the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death.

