



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
CANTERBURY

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

15-21 March 2021

Monday

Psalm 37.1-17

- 1 Do not vie with the wicked:
or envy those that do wrong;
- 2 For they will soon wither like the grass:
and fade away like the green leaf.
- 3 Trust in the Lord and do good:
and you shall dwell in the land
and feed in safe pastures.
- 4 Let the Lord be your delight:
and he will grant you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the Lord:
trust him, and he will act.
- 6 He will make your righteousness
shine as clear as the light:
and your innocence as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him:
do not be vexed when someone prospers,
when they put their evil purposes to work.
- 8 Let go of anger and abandon wrath:
let not envy move you to do evil.
- 9 For the wicked shall be cut down:
but those who wait for the Lord shall possess the land.
- 10 In a little while the ungodly shall be no more:
you will look for them in their place,
but they will not be found.
- 11 But the meek shall possess the land:
and enjoy the abundance of peace.
- 12 The ungodly plot against the righteous:
and gnash at them with their teeth.
- 13 But the Lord shall laugh them to scorn:
for he sees that the day for their overthrow is near.
- 14 The ungodly have drawn the sword and strung the bow:
to strike down the poor and needy,
to slaughter those that walk in innocence.
- 15 Their swords shall pierce their own hearts:
and their bows shall be broken.
- 16 Though the righteous has but a little:
it is better than the great wealth of the ungodly.
- 17 For the strong arm of the ungodly shall be broken:
but the Lord upholds the righteous.

Luke 18.1-14

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." ⁴ For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." ' ⁶ And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?' ⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰ 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." ¹³ But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

Tuesday

Psalm 38

- 1 O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger:
nor chasten me in your fierce displeasure.
- 2 For your arrows have been aimed against me:
and your hand has come down heavy upon me.
- 3 There is no health in my flesh
because of your indignation:
nor soundness in my bones, by reason of my sin.
- 4 The tide of my iniquities has gone over my head:
their weight is a burden too heavy for me to bear.
- 5 My wounds stink and fester:
because of my foolishness.
- 6 I am bowed down and brought so low:
that I go mourning all the day long.
- 7 For my loins are filled with a burning pain:
and there is no sound part in all my body.
- 8 I am numbed and stricken to the ground:
I cry aloud in the yearning of my heart.
- 9 O Lord, all I long for is before you:
and my deep sighing is not hidden from you.
- 10 My heart is in tumult, my strength fails me:
and even the light of my eyes has gone from me.
- 11 My friends and my companions
hold aloof from my affliction:
and my neighbours stand far off.
- 12 Those who seek my life strike at me:
and those that desire my hurt spread evil tales,
and murmur slanders all the day.
- 13 But I am like one who is deaf and hears nothing:
like those that are dumb, who do not open their mouths.
- 14 So I have become as one who cannot hear:
in whose mouth there is no retort.
- 15 For in you, Lord, have I put my trust:
and you will answer me, O Lord my God.
- 16 For I prayed 'Let them never exult over me:
those who turn arrogant when my foot slips.'
- 17 Truly, I am ready to fall:
and my pain is with me continually.
- 18 But I acknowledge my wickedness:
and I am filled with sorrow at my sin.
- 19 Those that are my enemies without cause
are great in number:
and those who hate me wrongfully are many.
- 20 Those also who repay evil for good are against me:
because I seek after good.
- 21 Forsake me not, O Lord,
go not far from me, my God:
hasten to my help, O Lord my salvation.

Luke 18.15-30

¹⁵ People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. ¹⁶ But Jesus called for them and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁷ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' ¹⁸ A certain ruler asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' ¹⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honour your father and mother." '

²¹ He replied, 'I have kept all these since my youth.' ²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, 'There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' ²³ But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very rich. ²⁴ Jesus looked at him and said, 'How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ Indeed, 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.' ²⁶ Those who heard it said, 'Then who can be saved?' ²⁷ He replied, 'What is impossible for mortals is possible for God.' ²⁸ Then Peter said, 'Look, we have left our homes and followed you.' ²⁹ And he said to them, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who will not get back very much more in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.'

Wednesday

Psalm 40

- 1 I waited patiently for the Lord:
and he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- 2 He brought me up from the pit of roaring waters,
out of the mire and clay:
and set my feet upon a rock, and made firm my foothold.
- 3 And he has put a new song in my mouth:
even a song of thanksgiving to our God.
- 4 Many shall see it and fear:
and shall put their trust in the Lord.
- 5 Blessed are those who have made the Lord their hope:
who have not turned to the proud,
or to those who wander in deceit.
- 6 O Lord my God, great are the wonderful things
which you have done,
and your thoughts which are towards us:
there is none to be compared with you;
- 7 Were I to declare them and speak of them:
they are more than I am able to express.
- 8 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire:
but my ears you have marked for obedience;
- 9 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required:
then said I, Lo, I come.
- 10 In the scroll of the book it is written of me,
that I should do your will:
O my God, I long to do it, your law delights my heart.
- 11 I have declared your righteousness
in the great congregation:
I have not restrained my lips, O Lord,
and that you know.
- 12 I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart:
I have spoken of your faithfulness and of your salvation.
- 13 I have not kept back your loving-kindness and your truth:
from the great congregation.
- 14 O Lord, do not withhold your mercy from me:
let your loving-kindness and your truth
ever preserve me.
- 15 For innumerable troubles have come upon me:
my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.
- 16 They are more in number than the hairs of my head:
therefore my heart fails me.
- 17 Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me:
O Lord, make haste to help me.
- 18 Let those who seek my life to take it away:
be put to shame and confounded altogether.
- 19 Let them be turned back and disgraced who wish me evil:
let them be aghast for shame who say to me 'Aha, aha!'

- 20 Let all who seek you be joyful and glad because of you:
let those who love your salvation say always
'The Lord is great.'
- 21 As for me, I am poor and needy:
but the Lord will care for me.
- 22 You are my helper and my deliverer:
make no long delay, O Lord my God.

Luke 18.31-43

³¹ Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³² For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. ³³ After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again.' ³⁴ But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. ³⁵ As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶ When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷ They told him, 'Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.' ³⁸ Then he shouted, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' ³⁹ Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁰ Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹ 'What do you want me to do for you?' He said, 'Lord, let me see again.' ⁴² Jesus said to him, 'Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.' ⁴³ Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

Thursday

Psalms 41; 44.1-9

41

- 1 Blessed are they that consider the poor and helpless:
the Lord will deliver them in the day of trouble.
- 2 The Lord will guard them and preserve their life,
they shall be counted happy in the land:
you will not give them over to the will of their enemies.
- 3 And if they lie sick on their bed,
the Lord will sustain them:
if illness lays them low, you will overthrow it.
- 4 I said 'O Lord, be merciful toward me:
heal me, for I have sinned against you.'
- 5 My enemies speak evil of me, saying:
'When will he die, and his name perish for ever?'
- 6 And if someone comes to see me,
they mouth empty words:
while their heart gathers mischief,
and when they go out, they vent it.
- 7 All those that hate me whisper together against me:
they devise plots against me.
- 8 They say 'A deadly thing has got hold of him:
he will not get up again from where he lies.'
- 9 Even my bosom friend in whom I trusted:
who shared my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
- 10 But you, O Lord, be gracious and raise me up:
and I will repay them what they have deserved.
- 11 By this will I know that you favour me:
That my enemy shall not triumph over me.
- 12 Because of my innocence you hold me fast:
you have set me before your face for ever.
- 13 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:
from everlasting to everlasting. Amen, Amen.

44

- 1 We have heard with our ears, O God,
our forebears have told us:
what things you did in their time, in the days of old;
- 2 How by your own hand
you drove out the nations, and planted us in:
how you crushed the peoples,
but caused us to root and grow.
- 3 For it was not by their swords
that our fathers took possession of the land:
nor did their own arm get them the victory,
- 4 But your right hand, your arm,
and the light of your countenance:
because you delighted in them.
- 5 You are my king and my God:
who ordained victory for Jacob.

- 6 By your power we struck our enemies through:
in your name we trod down those that rose against us.
- 7 For I did not trust in my bow:
nor could my sword save me;
- 8 But it was you that delivered us from our enemies:
and put our adversaries to confusion.
- 9 In God we made our boast all the day long:
we gave thanks to your name without ceasing.

Luke 19.1-10

¹ He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ² A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. ³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' ⁶ So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷ All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' ⁸ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' ⁹ Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'

Friday

Psalm 1

- 1 Blessed are they
who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly:
nor followed the way of sinners,
nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.
- 2 But their delight is in the law of the Lord:
and on that law will they ponder day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted beside streams of water:
that yield their fruit in due season.
- 4 Their leaves also shall not wither:
and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper.
- 5 As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:
they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.
- 6 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up
at the judgement:
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- 7 For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:
but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Ephesians 6.1-4

¹ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² 'Honour your father and mother'—this is the first commandment with a promise: ³ 'so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.' ⁴ And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Saturday

Psalm 48

- 1 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised:
in the city of our God.
- 2 High and beautiful is his holy hill:
it is the joy of all the earth.
- 3 On Mount Zion, where godhead truly dwells,
stands the city of the Great King:
God is well known in her palaces as a sure defence.
- 4 For the kings of the earth assembled:
they gathered together and came on;
- 5 They saw, they were struck dumb:
they were astonished and fled in terror.
- 6 Trembling took hold on them, and anguish:
as on a woman in her travail;
- 7 Like the breath of the east wind:
that shatters the ships of Tarshish.
- 8 As we have heard, so have we seen
in the city of the Lord of hosts:
in the city of our God,
which God has established for ever.
- 9 We have called to mind your loving-kindness, O God:
in the midst of your temple.
- 10 As your name is great, O God, so also is your praise:
even to the ends of the earth.
- 11 Your right hand is full of victory
—let Zion's hill rejoice:
let the daughters of Judah be glad,
because of your judgements.
- 12 Walk about Zion, go round about her,
and count all her towers:
consider well her ramparts, pass through her palaces;
- 13 That you may tell those who come after that such is God:
our God for ever and ever, and he will guide us eternally.

Luke 19.28-48

²⁸ After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples,

³⁰ saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here.

³¹ If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it." '

³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them.

³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?'

³⁴ They said, 'The Lord needs it.'

³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen,

³⁸ saying,

'Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!'

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.'

⁴⁰ He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

⁴¹ As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it,

⁴² saying, 'If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

⁴³ Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side.

⁴⁴ They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.'

⁴⁵ Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there;

⁴⁶ and he said, 'It is written,

"My house shall be a house of prayer";

but you have made it a den of robbers.'

⁴⁷ Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him;

⁴⁸ but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

Sunday

Psalm 39

- 1 I said 'I will keep watch over my ways,
lest I sin with my tongue:
I will keep a guard on my mouth
while the wicked are in my sight.'
- 2 I held my tongue and said nothing:
I kept silent, but found no comfort.
- 3 My pain was increased, my heart grew hot within me:
while I mused, the fire blazed,
and I spoke with my tongue;
- 4 'Lord, let me know my end:
and the number of my days,
- 5 'That I may know how short my time is:
for you have made my days but a handsbreadth
and my whole span is as nothing before you.'
- 6 Surely everyone who stands secure is but breath:
we live as a passing shadow.
- 7 The riches we heap are but a puff of wind:
and we cannot tell who will gather them.
- 8 And now, Lord, what is my hope?:
truly my hope is in you.
- 9 O deliver me from all my transgressions:
do not make me the butt of fools.
- 10 I was dumb, I did not open my mouth:
for surely it was your doing.
- 11 Take away your plague from me:
I am brought to an end by the blows of your hand.
- 12 When with rebukes you chastise us for sin:
you cause our fair looks to dissolve in putrefaction—
surely everyone is but breath.
- 13 Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry:
be not silent at my tears.
- 14 For I am but a stranger with you:
a passing guest as all my forebears were.
- 15 Turn your eye from me, that I may smile again:
before I go hence and am no more.

Mark 15.21-41

²¹ They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. ²² Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³ And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴ And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. ²⁵ It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶ The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' ²⁷ And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹ Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰ save yourself, and come down from the cross!' ³¹ In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³² Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. ³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' ³⁵ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' ³⁶ And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' ³⁷ Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸ And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹ Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!' ⁴⁰ There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹ These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

