

Readings and Psalms for
Morning Prayer Services
according to
The Anglican Prayer book
of Australia
17-23 May 2021

Monday

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;

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.
- You are my helper and my deliverer: make no long delay, O Lord my God.

John 16.12-24

¹² 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 16 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me.' 17 Then some of his disciples said to one another, 'What does he mean by saying to us, "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me"; and "Because I am going to the Father"?' 18 They said, 'What does he mean by this "a little while"? We do not know what he is talking about.' 19 Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, 'Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me"? 20 Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. 21 When a woman is in labour, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. 22 So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. 23 On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.

Tuesday

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.
- 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.
- And if they lie sick on their bed. the Lord will sustain them:

if illness lays them low, you will overthrow it.

- I said 'O Lord, be merciful toward me: heal me, for I have sinned against you.'
- My enemies speak evil of me, saying: 'When will he die, and his name perish for ever?'
- And if someone comes to see me. they mouth empty words: while their heart gathers mischief, and when they go out, they vent it.
- All those that hate me whisper together against me: they devise plots against me.
- They say 'A deadly thing has got hold of him: he will not get up again from where he lies.'
- 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.
- 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.

John 16.25-17.5

^{16.25} 'I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but will tell you plainly of the Father. ²⁶ On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷ for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸ I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father.' ²⁹ His disciples said, 'Yes, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure of speech! 30 Now we know that you know all things, and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God.' 31 Jesus answered them, 'Do you now believe? 32 The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. ³³ I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution, But take courage: I have conquered the world!' 17.1 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4 I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

Wednesday

Psalm 45

My heart is astir with fine phrases,I make my song for a king:my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

2 You are the fairest of men, grace flows from your lips:

therefore has God blessed you for ever and ever.

- 3 Gird your sword upon your thigh, O mighty warrior: in glory and majesty tread down your foes, and triumph!
- 4 Ride on in the cause of truth: and for the sake of justice.
- 5 Your right hand shall teach a terrible instruction: peoples shall fall beneath you, your arrows shall be sharp in the hearts of the king's enemies.
- 6 Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever: and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.
- 7 You have loved righteousness and hated evil: therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- 8 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes and cassia: music from ivory palaces makes you glad.
- 9 Kings' daughters are among your noble women: the queen is at your right hand in gold of Ophir.
- 10 Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear: forget your own people and your father's house.
- 11 The king desires your beauty:
 he is your lord, therefore bow down before him.
- 12 The richest among the people, O daughter of Tyre: shall entreat your favour with gifts.
- 13 The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is embroidered cloth-of-gold.
- 14 In robes of many colours she is led to you, O king: and, after her, the virgins that are with her.
- 15 They are led with gladness and rejoicing: they enter the palace of the king.
- 16 In place of your fathers you shall have sons: and make them princes over all the land.
- 17 And I will make known your name to every generation: therefore the peoples shall give you praise for ever.

John 17.6-19

 6 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9 I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13 But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. 14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Thursday

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.

John 17.20-26

²⁰ 'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ 'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

Friday

Psalm 50

1 The Lord our God, the Mighty One, has spoken: and summoned the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting in the west.

2 From Zion, perfect in beauty:

God has shone out in glory.

Our God is coming, he will not keep silent: before him is devouring fire, and tempest whirls about him.

4 He calls to the heavens above:

and to the earth, so he may judge his people.

5 'Gather to me my faithful ones:

those who by sacrifice made a covenant with me.'

6 The heavens shall proclaim his righteousness: for God himself is judge.

7 'Listen my people, and I will speak:
O Israel, I am God your God,
and I will give my testimony.

8 'It is not for your sacrifices that I reprove you: for your burnt-offerings are always before me.

9 'I will take no bull from your farms: or he-goat from your pens.

10 'For all the beasts of the forest belong to me: and so do the cattle upon the mountains.

11 'I know all the birds of the air:

and the grasshoppers of the field are in my sight.

12 'If I were hungry, I would not tell you:

for the whole world is mine, and all that is in it.

13 'Do I eat the flesh of bulls:

or drink the blood of goats?

14 'Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving: and pay your vows to the Most High.

15 'Call upon me in the day of trouble:

I will bring you out, and you shall glorify me.'

16 But God says to the wicked:

'What have you to do with reciting my laws, or taking my covenant on your lips,

17 'Seeing you loathe discipline:

and have tossed my words behind you?

18 'When you saw a thief, you went along with him: and you threw in your lot with adulterers.

19 'You have loosed your mouth in evil: and your tongue strings lies together.

20 'You sit and speak against your own kin: and slander your mother's children.

21 'These things you have done, and I held my tongue: and you thought I was just such another as yourself.

22 'But I will convict you:

and set before your eyes what you have done.

23 'O consider this, you who forget God:

lest I tear you in pieces, and there be no one to save you.

'He honours me who brings sacrifice of thanksgiving: 24 and to him who keeps to my way I will show the salvation of God.'

Acts 1.1-14

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4 While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' 9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11 They said. 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. 13 When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. Peter. and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.

¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain

women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Saturday

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, in your enduring goodness: according to the fulness of your compassion blot out my offences.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my rebellion: and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your eyes: so you will be just in your sentence and blameless in your judging.

5 Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth: and in sin my mother conceived me.

6 You that desire truth in the inward parts:
O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Make me hear of joy and gladness: let the bones which you have broken rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins: and blot out all my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me out from your presence: do not take your holy spirit from me.

12 O give me the gladness of your help again: and support me with a willing spirit.

13 Then will I teach transgressors your ways: and sinners shall turn to you again.

14 O Lord God of my salvation, deliver me from bloodshed: and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

15 O Lord, open my lips:

and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

16 You take no pleasure in sacrifice, or I would give it: burnt-offerings you do not want.

17 The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

18 In your graciousness do good to Zion: rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt-offerings and oblations:

then will they offer young bulls upon your altar.

Acts 1.15-26

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said,

¹⁶ 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—

¹⁷ for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'

¹⁸ (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out.

¹⁹ This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)

²⁰ 'For it is written in the book of Psalms,

"Let his homestead become desolate,

and let there be no one to live in it";and

"Let another take his position of overseer."

²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.

 23 So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.

²⁴ Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen

²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.'

²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Sunday

Psalm 103.13-22

- 13 As a father is tender towards his children: so is the Lord tender to those that fear him.
- 14 For he knows of what we are made: he remembers that we are but dust.
- 15 Our days are but as grass: we flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone: and its place will know it no more.
- 17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever and ever toward those that fear him: and his righteousness upon their children's children;
- 18 Upon those who keep his covenant: and remember his commandments to do them.
- 19 The Lord has established his throne in heaven: and his kingdom rules over all.
- 20 Praise the Lord, all you his angels, you that excel in strength: you that fulfil his word, and obey the voice of his commandment.
- 21 Praise the Lord, all you his hosts: his servants who do his will.
- 22 Praise the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion: praise the Lord, O my soul!

1 Corinthians 12.1-13

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. 3 Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. 12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.