



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
CANTERBURY

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

25-31 October 2021

Monday

Psalm 135

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the name of the Lord:
praise him, you servants of the Lord,
- 2 Who stand in the house of the Lord:
in the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 Praise the Lord, for the Lord is gracious:
sing praises to his name, for it is good.
- 4 For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself:
and Israel as his own possession.
- 5 I know that the Lord is great:
and that our Lord is above all gods.
- 6 He does whatever he wills, in heaven and upon the earth:
in the seas and in the great depths.
- 7 He brings up clouds from the ends of the earth:
he makes lightning for the rain
and brings the wind out of his storehouses.
- 8 He struck down the firstborn of Egypt:
both man and beast alike.
- 9 He sent signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt:
against Pharaoh and against all his servants.
- 10 He struck down great nations:
and slew mighty kings,
- 11 Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, the king of Bashan:
and all the princes of Canaan.
- 12 He made over their land as a heritage:
a heritage for Israel his people.
- 13 O Lord, your name shall endure for ever:
so shall your renown, throughout all generations.
- 14 For the Lord will vindicate his people:
he will take pity on his servants.
- 15 As for the idols of the nations,
they are but silver and gold:
the work of human hands.
- 16 They have mouths, but speak not:
they have eyes, but they cannot see.
- 17 They have ears, yet hear nothing:
there is no breath in their nostrils.
- 18 Those who make them shall be like them:
so shall everyone that trusts in them.
- 19 Bless the Lord, O house of Israel:
bless the Lord, O house of Aaron.
- 20 Bless the Lord, O house of Levi:
you that fear the Lord, bless the Lord.
- 21 Blessed be the Lord from Zion:
he that dwells in Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

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

Psalms 137.1-6; 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.

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 18.15-35

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

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 19.1-15

¹ When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. ² Large crowds followed him, and he cured them there. ³ Some Pharisees came to him, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?' ⁴ He answered, 'Have you not read that the one who made them at the beginning "made them male and female", ⁵ and said, "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh"? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.' ⁷ They said to him, 'Why then did Moses command us to give a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her?' ⁸ He said to them, 'It was because you were so hard-hearted that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but at the beginning it was not so. ⁹ And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another commits adultery.' ¹⁰ His disciples said to him, 'If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry.' ¹¹ But he said to them, 'Not everyone can accept this teaching, but only those to whom it is given. ¹² For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let anyone accept this who can.' ¹³ Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; ¹⁴ but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.' ¹⁵ And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

Thursday

Psalms 143; 146

143

- 1 Hear my prayer, O Lord:
in your faithfulness consider my petition,
and in your righteousness give me answer.
- 2 Bring not your servant into judgement:
for in your sight can no one living be justified.
- 3 For the enemy has pursued me,
they have crushed my life to the ground:
they have made me dwell in darkness,
like those for ever dead.
- 4 Therefore my spirit grows faint:
and my heart is appalled within me.
- 5 I remember the days of old,
I think on all that you have done:
I consider the works of your hands.
- 6 I stretch out my hands toward you:
my soul yearns for you like a thirsty land.
- 7 Be swift to hear me, O Lord, for my spirit fails:
hide not your face from me,
lest I be like those who go down to the Pit.
- 8 O let me hear of your merciful kindness in the morning,
for my trust is in you:
show me the way that I should go,
for you are my hope.
- 9 Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord:
for I run to you for shelter.
- 10 Teach me to do your will, for you are my God:
let your kindly spirit lead me in an even path.
- 11 For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life:
and for the sake of your righteousness,
bring me out of trouble.
- 12 In your merciful goodness slay my enemies,
and destroy all those that come against me:
for truly I am your servant.

146

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul:
while I live I will praise the Lord;
- 2 While I have any being:
I will sing praises to my God.
- 3 Put not your trust in princes:
nor in flesh and blood, which cannot save.
- 4 For when their breath goes from them,
they return again to the earth:
and on that day all their thoughts perish.
- 5 Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob:
whose hope is in the Lord their God,

- 6 The God who made heaven and earth:
the sea, and all that is in them,
7 Who keeps faith for ever:
who deals justice to those that are oppressed.
8 The Lord gives food to the hungry:
and sets the captives free.
9 The Lord gives sight to the blind:
the Lord lifts up those that are bowed down.
10 The Lord loves the righteous:
the Lord cares for the stranger in the land.
11 He upholds the widow and the fatherless:
as for the way of the wicked, he turns it upside down.
12 The Lord shall be king for ever:
your God, O Zion, shall reign through all generations.
Praise the Lord.

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

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 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

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 20.17-34

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

Psalm 119.1-8

- 1 Blessed are those whose way is blameless:
 who walk in the law of the Lord.
- 2 Blessed are those who keep his commands:
 and seek him with their whole heart;
- 3 Those who do no wrong:
 but walk in the ways of our God.
- 4 For you, Lord, have commanded us:
 to persevere in all your precepts.
- 5 If only my ways were unerring:
 towards the keeping of your statutes!
- 6 Then I should not be ashamed:
 when I looked on all your commandments.
- 7 I will praise you with sincerity of heart:
 as I learn your righteous judgements.
- 8 I will keep your statutes:
 O forsake me not utterly.

Hebrews 9.15-24

¹⁵ For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant. ¹⁶ Where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. ¹⁷ For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. ¹⁸ Hence not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. ¹⁹ For when every commandment had been told to all the people by Moses in accordance with the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the scroll itself and all the people, ²⁰ saying, 'This is the blood of the covenant that God has ordained for you.' ²¹ And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. ²² Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. ²³ Thus it was necessary for the sketches of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves need better sacrifices than these. ²⁴ For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

