



ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
CANTERBURY

Readings and Psalms for
Morning Prayer Services

according to

The Anglican Prayer book
of Australia

30 August—5 September 2021

Monday

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.

Acts 23.12-24

¹² In the morning the Jews joined in a conspiracy and bound themselves by an oath neither to eat nor drink until they had killed Paul. ¹³ There were more than forty who joined in this conspiracy. ¹⁴ They went to the chief priests and elders and said, 'We have strictly bound ourselves by an oath to taste no food until we have killed Paul. ¹⁵ Now then, you and the council must notify the tribune to bring him down to you, on the pretext that you want to make a more thorough examination of his case. And we are ready to do away with him before he arrives.' ¹⁶ Now the son of Paul's sister heard about the ambush; so he went and gained entrance to the barracks and told Paul. ¹⁷ Paul called one of the centurions and said, 'Take this young man to the tribune, for he has something to report to him.' ¹⁸ So he took him, brought him to the tribune, and said, 'The prisoner Paul called me and asked me to bring this young man to you; he has something to tell you.' ¹⁹ The tribune took him by the hand, drew him aside privately, and asked, 'What is it that you have to report to me?' ²⁰ He answered, 'The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down to the council tomorrow, as though they were going to inquire more thoroughly into his case. ²¹ But do not be persuaded by them, for more than forty of their men are lying in ambush for him. They have bound themselves by an oath neither to eat nor drink until they kill him. They are ready now and are waiting for your consent.' ²² So the tribune dismissed the young man, ordering him, 'Tell no one that you have informed me of this.' ²³ Then he summoned two of the centurions and said, 'Get ready to leave by nine o'clock tonight for Caesarea with two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen, and two hundred spearmen. ²⁴ Also provide mounts for Paul to ride, and take him safely to Felix the governor.'

Tuesday

Psalm 83.1-8

- 1 Hold not your peace, O God:
O God, be not silent or unmoved.
- 2 See how your enemies make uproar:
how those that hate you have lifted up their heads.
- 3 For they lay shrewd plots against your people:
they scheme against those whom you have cherished.
- 4 'Come', they say, 'let us destroy them,
that they may no longer be a nation:
that the very name of Israel
may be remembered no more.'
- 5 With one mind they conspire together:
they make alliance against you,
- 6 The tribes of Edom and the Ishmaelites:
the people of Moab and the Hagarites,
- 7 Gebal and Ammon and Amalek:
Philistia, and the inhabitants of Tyre;
- 8 Asshur also is joined with them:
and lends a friendly arm to the children of Lot.

Acts 23.25-24.9

^{23.25} He wrote a letter to this effect: ²⁶ 'Claudius Lysias to his Excellency the governor Felix, greetings. ²⁷ This man was seized by the Jews and was about to be killed by them, but when I had learned that he was a Roman citizen, I came with the guard and rescued him. ²⁸ Since I wanted to know the charge for which they accused him, I had him brought to their council. ²⁹ I found that he was accused concerning questions of their law, but was charged with nothing deserving death or imprisonment. ³⁰ When I was informed that there would be a plot against the man, I sent him to you at once, ordering his accusers also to state before you what they have against him.' ³¹ So the soldiers, according to their instructions, took Paul and brought him during the night to Antipatris. ³² The next day they let the horsemen go on with him, while they returned to the barracks. ³³ When they came to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they presented Paul also before him. ³⁴ On reading the letter, he asked what province he belonged to, and when he learned that he was from Cilicia, ³⁵ he said, 'I will give you a hearing when your accusers arrive.' Then he ordered that he be kept under guard in Herod's headquarters. ^{24.1} Five days later the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and an attorney, a certain Tertullus, and they reported their case against Paul to the governor. ² When Paul had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying: 'Your Excellency, because of you we have long enjoyed peace, and reforms have been made for this people because of your foresight. ³ We welcome this in every way and everywhere with utmost gratitude. ⁴ But, to detain you no further, I beg you to hear us briefly with your customary graciousness. ⁵ We have, in fact, found this man a pestilent fellow, an agitator among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. ⁶ He even tried to profane the temple, and so we seized him. ⁸ By examining him yourself you will be able to learn from him concerning everything of which we accuse him.' ⁹ The Jews also joined in the charge by asserting that all this was true.

Wednesday

Psalms 1; 2

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.

2

- 1 Why are the nations in tumult:
and why do the peoples cherish a vain dream?
- 2 The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers conspire together:
against the Lord and against his anointed, saying,
- 3 'Let us break their bonds asunder:
let us throw off their chains from us.'
- 4 He that dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn:
the Lord will hold them in derision.
- 5 Then will he speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury:
'I, the Lord, have set up my king on Zion my holy hill.'
- 6 I will announce the Lord's decree,
that which he has spoken:
'You are my son, this day have I begotten you.
- 7 'Ask of me,
and I will give you the nations for your inheritance:
the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession.
- 8 'You may break them with a rod of iron:
and shatter them in pieces like a potter's vessel.'
- 9 Now therefore be wise, O kings:
be advised, you that are judges of the earth.
- 10 Serve the Lord with awe,
and govern yourselves in fear and trembling:
lest he be angry, and you perish in your course.
- 11 For his wrath is quickly kindled:
blessed are those that turn to him for refuge.

Acts 24.10-27

¹⁰ When the governor motioned to him to speak, Paul replied: 'I cheerfully make my defence, knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation. ¹¹ As you can find out, it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem. ¹² They did not find me disputing with anyone in the temple or stirring up a crowd either in the synagogues or throughout the city. ¹³ Neither can they prove to you the charge that they now bring against me. ¹⁴ But this I admit to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our ancestors, believing everything laid down according to the law or written in the prophets. ¹⁵ I have a hope in God—a hope that they themselves also accept—that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous. ¹⁶ Therefore I do my best always to have a clear conscience towards God and all people. ¹⁷ Now after some years I came to bring alms to my nation and to offer sacrifices. ¹⁸ While I was doing this, they found me in the temple, completing the rite of purification, without any crowd or disturbance. ¹⁹ But there were some Jews from Asia—they ought to be here before you to make an accusation, if they have anything against me. ²⁰ Or let these men here tell what crime they had found when I stood before the council, ²¹ unless it was this one sentence that I called out while standing before them, "It is about the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you today." ²² But Felix, who was rather well informed about the Way, adjourned the hearing with the comment, 'When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case.' ²³ Then he ordered the centurion to keep him in custody, but to let him have some liberty and not to prevent any of his friends from taking care of his needs. ²⁴ Some days later when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him speak concerning faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁵ And as he discussed justice, self-control, and the coming judgement, Felix became frightened and said, 'Go away for the present; when I have an opportunity, I will send for you.' ²⁶ At the same time he hoped that money would be given to him by Paul, and for that reason he used to send for him very often and converse with him. ²⁷ After two years had passed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus; and since he wanted to grant the Jews a favour, Felix left Paul in prison.

Thursday

Psalm 126

- 1 When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion:
then were we like those restored to life.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter:
and our tongue with singing.
- 3 Then said they among the heathen:
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
- 4 Truly the Lord has done great things for us:
and therefore we rejoiced.
- 5 Turn again our fortunes, O Lord:
as the streams return to the dry south.
- 6 Those who sow in tears:
shall reap with songs of joy.
- 7 They that go out weeping, bearing the seed:
shall come again in gladness,
bringing their sheaves with them.

Revelation 6.9-11

⁹ When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slaughtered for the word of God and for the testimony they had given; ¹⁰ they cried out with a loud voice, 'Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long will it be before you judge and avenge our blood on the inhabitants of the earth?' ¹¹ They were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number would be complete both of their fellow-servants and of their brothers and sisters, who were soon to be killed as they themselves had been killed.

Friday

Psalm 72

- 1 Give the king your judgement, O God:
and your righteousness to the son of a king,
- 2 That he may judge your people rightly:
and the poor of the land with equity.
- 3 Let the mountains be laden with peace
because of his righteousness:
and the hills also with prosperity for his people.
- 4 May he give justice to the poor among the people:
and rescue the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
- 5 May he live while the sun endures:
and while the moon gives light,
throughout all generations.
- 6 May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields:
and as showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall righteousness flourish:
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.
- 8 His dominion shall stretch from sea to sea:
from the Great River to the ends of the earth.
- 9 His adversaries shall bow down before him:
and his enemies shall lick the dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles
shall bring tribute:
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall fall down before him:
and all nations do him service.
- 12 He will deliver the needy when they cry:
and the poor that have no helper.
- 13 He will pity the helpless and the needy:
and save the lives of the poor.
- 14 He will redeem them from oppression and violence:
and their blood shall be precious in his sight.
- 15 Long may he live, and be given of the gold of Sheba:
may prayer be made for him continually,
may they bless him every day.
- 16 Let there be abundance of wheat in the land:
let it flourish on the tops of the mountains;
- 17 Let its ears grow fat like the grain of Lebanon:
and its sheaves thicken like the grass of the field.
- 18 Let his name live for ever:
and endure as long as the sun.
- 19 Let all peoples use his name in blessing:
and all nations call him blessed.
- 20 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel:
who alone does great wonders.
- 21 Blessed be his glorious name for ever:
and let the whole earth be filled with his glory.
Amen, Amen.

Matthew 10.1-15

¹ Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. ⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." ⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. ⁹ Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰ no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. ¹¹ Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹² As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³ If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴ If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town.

Saturday

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.

Matthew 10.16-27

¹⁶ 'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸ and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹ When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹ Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ²² and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. ²⁴ 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ²⁶ 'So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops.

Sunday

Psalm 77

- 1 I call to my God, I cry out toward him:
I call to my God, and surely he will answer.
- 2 In the day of my distress I seek the Lord,
I stretch out my hands to him by night:
my soul is poured out without ceasing,
it refuses all comfort.
- 3 I think upon God and groan aloud:
I muse, and my spirit faints.
- 4 You hold my eyelids open:
I am so dazed that I cannot flee.
- 5 I consider the times that are past:
I remember the years of long ago.
- 6 At night I am grieved to the heart:
I ponder, and my spirit makes search;
- 7 'Will the Lord cast us off for ever:
will he show us his favour no more?
- 8 'Is his mercy clean gone for ever:
and his promise come to an end for all generations?
- 9 'Has God forgotten to be gracious:
has he shut up his pity in displeasure?'
- 10 And I say 'Has the right hand of the Most High
lost its strength:
has the arm of the Lord changed?'
- 11 I will declare the mighty acts of the Lord:
I will call to mind your wonders of old.
- 12 I will think on all that you have done:
and meditate upon your works.
- 13 Your way, O God, is holy:
who is so great a god as our God?
- 14 You are the God that works wonders:
you made known your power among the nations;
- 15 By your mighty arm you redeemed your people:
the children of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16 The waters saw you, O God,
the waters saw you and were afraid:
the depths also were troubled.
- 17 The clouds poured out water, the heavens spoke:
and your arrows darted forth.
- 18 The voice of your thunder was heard in the whirlwind:
your lightnings lit the world,
the earth shuddered and quaked.
- 19 Your way was in the sea, your path in the great waters:
and your footsteps were not seen.
- 20 You led your people like sheep:
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Matthew 10.28-42

²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father.

³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted.

³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² 'Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven;

³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ 'Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;

³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

⁴⁰ 'Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous;

⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.'

