

Readings and Psalms for
Morning Prayer Services
according to
The Anglican Prayer book
of Australia
8-14 March 2021

Monday

Psalms 20; 21.1-7

20

- 1 May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble: the God of Jacob lift you up to safety.
- 2 May he send you his help from the sanctuary: and be your strong support from Zion.
- 3 May he remember all your offerings: and accept with favour your burnt sacrifices,
- 4 Grant you your heart's desire: and fulfil all your purposes.
- 5 May we also rejoice in your victory and triumph in the name of our God: the Lord perform all your petitions.
- 6 Now I know that the Lord will save his anointed: that he will answer him from his holy heaven with the victorious strength of his right hand.
- 7 Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses: but we will trust in the name of the Lord our God.
- 8 They are brought down and fallen: but we are made strong and stand upright.
- 9 O Lord, save the king: and hear us when we call upon you.

21

- 1 The king shall rejoice in your strength, O Lord: he shall exult in your salvation.
- You have given him his heart's desire: you have not denied him the request of his lips.
- 3 For you came to meet him with the blessings of success: and placed a crown of gold upon his head.
- 4 He asked you for life and you gave it him: length of days for ever and ever.
- 5 Great is his glory because of your salvation: you have clothed him with honour and majesty.
- 6 You have given him everlasting felicity: and made him glad with the joy of your presence.
- 7 For the king puts his trust in the Lord: and through the tender mercy of the Most High he shall never be moved.

Luke 15.1-10

¹ Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. ⁸ 'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

Tuesday

Psalm 22.1-22

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me: why are you so far from helping me and from the words of my groaning?

2 My God, I cry to you by day, but you do not answer: and by night also I take no rest.

3 But you continue holy:

you that are the praise of Israel.

4 In you our forebears trusted:

they trusted, and you delivered them;

5 To you they cried and they were saved:

they put their trust in you and were not confounded.

6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man:

the scorn of all and despised by the people.

7 Those that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out their lips at me

and wag their heads, saying,

8 'He trusted in the Lord—let him deliver him: let him deliver him, if he delights in him.'

9 But you are he that took me out of the womb: that brought me to lie at peace on my mother's breast.

10 On you have I been cast since my birth:

you are my God, even from my mother's womb.

11 O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand: and there is none to help.

12 Many oxen surround me:

14

fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.

13 They gape wide their mouths at me: like lions that roar and rend.

I am poured out like water,

and all my bones are out of joint:

my heart within my breast is like melting wax.

15 My mouth is dried up like a potsherd:

and my tongue clings to my gums.

16 My hands and my feet are withered:

and you lay me in the dust of death.

17 For many dogs are come about me: and a band of evildoers hem me in.

18 I can count all my bones:

they stand staring and gazing upon me.

19 They part my garments among them: and cast lots for my clothing.

20 O Lord, do not stand far off:

you are my helper, hasten to my aid.

21 Deliver my body from the sword:

my life from the power of the dogs;

22 O save me from the lion's mouth:

and my afflicted soul from the horns of the wild oxen.

Luke 15.11-32

¹¹ Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. 17 But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! 18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' " 20 So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." 22 But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ 'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 29 But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" 31 Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life: he was lost and has been found." '

Wednesday

Psalm 25

1 In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope: in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who wait for you be put to shame:

but let those that break faith

be confounded and gain nothing.

3 Show me your ways, O Lord: and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me:

for you are the God of my salvation.

5 In you have I hoped all the day long:

because of your goodness, O Lord.

6 Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness: for they are from of old.

7 Remember not the sins of my youth,

nor my transgressions:

but according to your mercy think on me.

8 Good and upright is the Lord:

therefore will he direct sinners in the way.

9 The meek he will guide in the path of justice: and teach the humble his ways.

10 All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true:

for those who keep his covenant and his commandments.

11 For your name's sake, O Lord:

be merciful to my sin, though it is great.

12 Who are they that fear the Lord?:

them will the Lord direct

in the way that they should choose.

13 Their souls shall dwell at ease:

and their children shall inherit the land.

14 The confidences of God belong to those that fear him: and his covenant shall give them understanding.

15 My eyes are ever looking to the Lord:

for he will bring my feet out of the net.

16 Turn your face toward me and be gracious:

for I am alone and in misery.

17 O free my heart from pain:

and bring me out of my distress.

18 Give heed to my affliction and adversity: and forgive me all my sins.

19 Consider my enemies, how many they are:

and they bear a violent hate against me.

20 O keep my life, and deliver me:

put me not to shame, for I come to you for refuge.

21 Let innocence and integrity be my guard:

for in you have I hoped.

22 O God, deliver Israel:

out of all their tribulation.

Luke 16.1-13

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." ³ Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4 I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" ⁶ He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." 8 And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. 10 'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. 11 If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? 13 No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

Thursday

Psalms 28; 29

28

1 To you will I cry, O Lord my Rock, be not deaf to my prayer: lest, if you turn away silent,

I become like those that go down to the grave.

2 Hear the voice of my supplication when I cry to you for help:

when I lift up my hands

toward the holiest place of your sanctuary.

3 Do not snatch me away with the ungodly, with the evildoers:

who speak peace to their neighbours, but nourish malice in their hearts.

4 Repay them according to their deeds:

and according to the wickedness of their endeavours;

5 Requite them for the work of their hands:

and give them their deserts.

6 For they pay no heed to the Lord's acts,

nor to the operation of his hands:

therefore shall he break them down and not build them up.

7 Let the Lord's name be praised:

for he has heard the voice of my supplication.

8 The Lord is my strength and my shield,

in him my heart trusts and I am helped:

therefore my heart dances for joy, and in my song will I praise him.

9 The Lord is the strength of his people:

and a sure refuge for his anointed king.

O save your people and give your blessing to your own: 10 be their shepherd, and bear them up for ever.

29

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven: ascribe to the Lord glory and might.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name:

O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness.

3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters:

the God of glory thunders,

the Lord upon the great waters.

The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation: 4 the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees:

the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

6 He makes them skip like a calf:

Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.

- 7 The voice of the Lord divides the lightning-flash: the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of the desert, the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees, and strips bare the forests: in his temple all cry 'Glory.'
- 9 The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood: the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.
- 10 The Lord will give strength to his people: the Lord will give to his people the blessing of peace.

Luke 16.14-31

¹⁴ The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they ridiculed him. ¹⁵ So he said to them, 'You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of others; but God knows your hearts; for what is prized by human beings is an abomination in the sight of God. 16 'The law and the prophets were in effect until John came; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is proclaimed, and everyone tries to enter it by force. ¹⁷ But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away, than for one stroke of a letter in the law to be dropped. 18 'Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and whoever marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery. ¹⁹ 'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. 20 And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, 21 who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. 24 He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." 25 But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." ²⁷ He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— 28 for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." 29 Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." 30 He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." ³¹ He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." '

Friday

Psalm 33

1 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous: for it befits the just to praise him.

2 Give the Lord thanks upon the harp: and sing his praise to the lute of ten strings.

3 O sing him a new song:

make sweetest melody, with shouts of praise.

4 For the word of the Lord is true:

and all his works are faithful.

5 He loves righteousness and justice:

the earth is filled with the loving-kindness of the Lord.

6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made: and their numberless stars by the breath of his mouth.

7 He gathered the waters of the sea as in a water-skin: and laid up the deep in his treasuries.

8 Let the whole earth fear the Lord:

and let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

9 For he spoke, and it was done:

he commanded, and it stood fast.

10 The Lord frustrates the counsels of the nations: he brings to nothing the devices of the peoples.

11 But the counsels of the Lord shall endure for ever: the purposes of his heart from generation to generation.

12 Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord:

the people he chose to be his own possession.

13 The Lord looks down from heaven

and surveys all the children of Adam:

he considers from his dwelling-place all the inhabitants of the earth:

14 He who fashioned the hearts of them all: and comprehends all that they do.

15 A king is not saved by a mighty army:

nor is a warrior delivered by much strength;

16 A horse is a vain hope as a deliverer:

nor can he rescue any by his great power.

17 But the eye of the Lord is on those that fear him: on those that trust in his unfailing love,

18 To deliver them from death:

and to feed them in the time of dearth.

19 We have waited eagerly for the Lord: for he is our help and our shield.

20 Surely our hearts shall rejoice in him: for we have trusted in his holy name.

21 Let your merciful kindness be upon us, O Lord: even as our hope is in you.

Luke 17.1-19

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to anyone by whom they come! 2 It would be better for you if a millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea than for you to cause one of these little ones to stumble. ³ Be on your guard! If another disciple sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive. ⁴ And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, "I repent", you must forgive.' 5 The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' 6 The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you. ⁷ 'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? 8 Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? 9 Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!" ' 11 On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16 He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸ Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' ¹⁹ Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

Saturday

Psalm 35.1-17

1 Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me: fight against those that fight against me.

2 Take up shield and buckler:

and arise, arise to help me.

3 Draw the spear

and bar the way against those that pursue me:

say to me 'I am your deliverer.'

4 Let those that seek my life

be put to shame and disgraced:

let those that plot my destruction

be turned back and confounded.

5 Let them be like chaff before the wind:

with the angel of the Lord driving them;

6 Let their way be dark and slippery:

with the angel of the Lord pursuing.

7 For without cause

they have secretly spread a net for me:

without cause they have dug a pit to entrap me.

8 Let sudden disaster strike them:

let the net that they have hidden catch them, let them fall to their destruction.

9 Then shall my soul be joyful in the Lord:

and I will rejoice in his deliverance.

10 All my bones shall say 'Lord, who is like you?:

for you deliver the poor

from those that are too strong for them,

the poor and needy

from those that would despoil them.'

11 Malicious witnesses rise up against me:

I am questioned about things of which I know nothing.

12 They repay me evil for good:

I am as one bereaved of my children.

13 Yet when they were sick, I put on sackcloth:

I afflicted myself with fasting.

14 And if my prayer returned unanswered to my bosom:

I went about mourning

as though for a brother or a companion;

15 I was bowed down with grief:

as though for my own mother.

16 But when I stumbled, they rejoiced and gathered together,

they gathered together against me:

as though they were strangers I never knew,

they tore at me without ceasing.

17 When I slipped, they mocked me:

and gnashed at me with their teeth.

Luke 17.20-37

²⁰ Once Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming. and he answered, 'The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed; ²¹ nor will they say, "Look, here it is!" or "There it is!" For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you.' ²² Then he said to the disciples, 'The days are coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. ²³ They will say to you, "Look there!" or "Look here!" Do not go, do not set off in pursuit. 24 For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. ²⁵ But first he must endure much suffering and be rejected by this generation. ²⁶ Just as it was in the days of Noah, so too it will be in the days of the Son of Man. ²⁷ They were eating and drinking, and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed all of them. 28 Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot: they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, ²⁹ but on the day that Lot left Sodom, it rained fire and sulphur from heaven and destroyed all of them 30 <<—it will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed. ³¹ On that day, anyone on the housetop who has belongings in the house must not come down to take them away; and likewise anyone in the field must not turn back. ³² Remember Lot's wife. ³³ Those who try to make their life secure will lose it, but those who lose their life will keep it. 34 I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. 35 There will be two women grinding meal together; one will be taken and the other left.' 37 Then they asked him, 'Where, Lord?' He said to them, 'Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.'

Sunday

Psalm 119.73-80

- 73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me:
 O give me understanding,
 that I may learn your commandments.
- 74 Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice: for my hope is in your word.
- 75 I know, Lord, that your judgements are right: and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.
- 76 Let your merciful kindness be my comfort: according to your promise to your servant.
- 77 O let your mercy come to me that I may live: for your law is my delight.
- 78 Let the proud be shamed who steal my rights through their lies: but I will meditate on your precepts.
- 79 Let those who fear you turn to me: and they shall know your commands.
- 80 O let my heart be sound in your statutes: that I may never be put to shame.

Mark 15.1-20

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ² Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'You say so.' ³ Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ Pilate asked him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' 5 But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. 6 Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸ So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹ Then he answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' 10 For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. 12 Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' 13 They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' 14 Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!' 15 So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. 16 Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. 18 And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' 19 They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. 20 After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.