

Readings, Collect and Year's Mind
Sunday 26th September, 2021
Pentecost 18

In our Year's Mind this week, we pray for: John Mason, Isabella Davidson, Margaret Missen, Mary Smith, Harry Rickett, Raymond Broughton, Arthur Forrester, Aileen Locker, Joan Snodgrass.

We also give special prayers for:

Roddy, Jane T., Jane Si., Pam B., Claire A. & family, and Jenny, Colin & family.

The Intercessions are being led by Lenore Simson

Collect for the Season of Creation:

God of our salvation,
be with us when we call upon you,
and bless us with your steadfast loving kindness:
restore in us the beauty of your creation
and keep intact the gifts you have restored,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Old Testament Reading is Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The rabble among the people had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, 'If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.' Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the Lord, 'Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favour in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, "Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child," to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, "Give us meat to eat!"

I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once – if I have found favour in your sight – and do not let me see my misery.' So the Lord said to Moses, 'Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.' So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent.

Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested

upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19: 7-14

7. The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
8. The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.
9. The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
10. More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
11. By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.
12. Who can tell how often he offends? Cleanse me from my secret faults.
13. Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and
innocent of a great offence.
14. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in
your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The New Testament Reading is James 5: 13-20 (Read by Angie Saunders)

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading is Mark 9: 38-50

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

After Jesus had finished teaching the disciples, John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.'

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 hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Post-Communion Prayer:

God, the source of all that is,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us
and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy.

Amen.

Blessing:

God give you grace to be faithful stewards of Creation,
rejoicing that you are made in God's image,
and seeking justice for those who do not share in the earth's bounty,
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be upon you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

The anthem during Communion is Panis Angelicus, by Camille Saint-Saëns, and the translation is:

The bread of angels becomes the bread of mortals; the bread of heaven is given a bounded form. O wondrous thing, the poor, the slave and the humble feed on their Lord. Of you, threefold and one God, we ask: Come to visit us as we worship you; lead us on your paths to where we want to go: to the light in which you dwell. Amen.