

## Psalm and Readings Tuesday 8th April 2025

### Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes,  
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!  
As the eyes of servants  
look to the hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a maid  
to the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to the Lord our God,  
until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
for we have had more than enough of  
contempt.  
Our soul has had more than its fill  
of the scorn of those who are at ease,  
of the contempt of the proud.

### Jeremiah 22:1-5, 13-19

Thus says the Lord: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word, and say: Hear the word of the Lord, O King of Judah sitting on the throne of David—you, and your servants, and your people who enter these gates. Thus says the Lord: Act with justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor anyone who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the alien, the orphan, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place. For if you will indeed obey this word, then through the gates of this house shall enter kings who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their servants, and their people. But if you will not heed these words, I swear by myself, says the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation.

Woe to him who builds his house by  
unrighteousness,  
and his upper rooms by injustice;  
who makes his neighbours work for nothing,  
and does not give them their wages;  
who says, 'I will build myself a spacious house  
with large upper rooms',  
and who cuts out windows for it,  
panelling it with cedar,  
and painting it with vermilion.  
Are you a king  
because you compete in cedar?

Did not your father eat and drink  
and do justice and righteousness?  
Then it was well with him.  
He judged the cause of the poor and needy;  
then it was well.  
Is not this to know me?  
says the Lord.  
But your eyes and heart  
are only on your dishonest gain,  
for shedding innocent blood,  
and for practising oppression and violence.

Therefore thus says the Lord concerning King  
Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah:

They shall not lament for him, saying,  
'Alas, my brother!' or 'Alas, sister!'  
They shall not lament for him, saying,  
'Alas, lord!' or 'Alas, his majesty!'  
With the burial of a donkey he shall be buried—  
dragged off and thrown out beyond the gates  
of Jerusalem.

### John 11:45-end

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what he had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the council, and said, 'What are we to do? This man is performing many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation.' But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, 'You know nothing at all! You do not understand that it is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed.' He did not say this on his own, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus was about to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but to gather into one the dispersed children of God. So from that day on they planned to put him to death.

Jesus therefore no longer walked about openly among the Jews, but went from there to a town

called Ephraim in the region near the wilderness;  
and he remained there with the disciples.

Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. They were looking for Jesus and were asking one another as they stood in the temple, 'What do you think? Surely he will not come to the festival, will he?' Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who knew where Jesus was should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

### **A Prayer as we seek our new Associate Vicar**

Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for your love for all people, and for all you give us. During our vacancy, we pray particularly for the person we believe in faith that you have chosen to be our next Associate Vicar.

May that person respond gladly to your call, and work with us to grow your Kingdom in this Benefice.

While we wait, send us your Holy Spirit: help us to be patient, build us up in faith and love, and equip us to serve you well with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

These things we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen

### **The Collect of the Day**

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son  
Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the  
cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.