

Psalm and Readings Thursday 26th June 2025

Psalm 119:105 - 144

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.
I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.
Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,
and teach me your ordinances.
I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.
The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.
Your decrees are my heritage for ever;
they are the joy of my heart.
I incline my heart to perform your statutes
for ever, to the end.

I hate the double-minded, but I love your law.
You are my hiding-place and my shield;
I hope in your word.
Go away from me, you evildoers,
that I may keep the commandments of my God.
Uphold me according to your promise, that I may live,
and let me not be put to shame in my hope.
Hold me up, that I may be safe
and have regard for your statutes continually.
You spurn all who go astray from your statutes;
for their cunning is in vain.
All the wicked of the earth you count as dross;
therefore I love your decrees.
My flesh trembles for fear of you,
and I am afraid of your judgements.

I have done what is just and right;
do not leave me to my oppressors.
Guarantee your servant's well-being;
do not let the godless oppress me.
My eyes fail from watching for your salvation,
and for the fulfilment of your righteous promise.
Deal with your servant according to your
steadfast love, and teach me your statutes.
I am your servant; give me understanding,
so that I may know your decrees.
It is time for the Lord to act,
for your law has been broken.
Truly I love your commandments
more than gold, more than fine gold.
Truly I direct my steps by all your precepts;
I hate every false way.

Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.
The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.
With open mouth I pant,
because I long for your commandments.
Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your custom towards those who love your name.
Keep my steps steady according to your promise,
and never let iniquity have dominion over me.
Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may keep your precepts.
Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes shed streams of tears
because your law is not kept.

You are righteous, O Lord,
and your judgements are right.
You have appointed your decrees in
righteousness and in all faithfulness.
My zeal consumes me
because my foes forget your words.
Your promise is well tried,
and your servant loves it.
I am small and despised,
yet I do not forget your precepts.
Your righteousness is an everlasting
righteousness, and your law is the truth.
Trouble and anguish have come upon me,
but your commandments are my delight.
Your decrees are righteous for ever;
give me understanding that I may live.

Job 16:1 – 17.2

Then Job answered:
'I have heard many such things;
miserable comforters are you all.
Have windy words no limit?
Or what provokes you that you keep on talking?
I also could talk as you do,
if you were in my place;
I could join words together against you,
and shake my head at you.
I could encourage you with my mouth,
and the solace of my lips would assuage your pain.

'If I speak, my pain is not assuaged,
 and if I forbear, how much of it leaves me?
 Surely now God has worn me out;
 he has made desolate all my company.
 And he has shrivelled me up,
 which is a witness against me;
 my leanness has risen up against me,
 and it testifies to my face.
 He has torn me in his wrath, and hated me;
 he has gnashed his teeth at me;
 my adversary sharpens his eyes against me.
 They have gaped at me with their mouths;
 they have struck me insolently on the cheek;
 they mass themselves together against me.
 God gives me up to the ungodly,
 and casts me into the hands of the wicked.
 I was at ease, and he broke me in two;
 he seized me by the neck and dashed me to
 pieces;
 he set me up as his target;
 his archers surround me.
 He slashes open my kidneys, and shows no
 mercy;
 he pours out my gall on the ground.
 He bursts upon me again and again;
 he rushes at me like a warrior.
 I have sewed sackcloth upon my skin,
 and have laid my strength in the dust.
 My face is red with weeping,
 and deep darkness is on my eyelids,
 though there is no violence in my hands,
 and my prayer is pure.

 'O earth, do not cover my blood;
 let my outcry find no resting-place.
 Even now, in fact, my witness is in heaven,
 and he that vouches for me is on high.
 My friends scorn me;
 my eye pours out tears to God,
 that he would maintain the right of a mortal with
 God,
 as one does for a neighbour.
 For when a few years have come,
 I shall go the way from which I shall not return.

 My spirit is broken, my days are extinct,
 the grave is ready for me.
 Surely there are mockers around me,
 and my eye dwells on their provocation.

Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not
 to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if
 you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if
 by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the
 body, you will live. For all who are led by the
 Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not
 receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but
 you have received a spirit of adoption. When we
 cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing
 witness with our spirit that we are children of
 God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and
 joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with
 him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The Collect of the Day

O God, the strength of all them that put their
 trust in thee, mercifully accept our prayers; and
 because through the weakness of our mortal
 nature we can do no good thing without thee,
 grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping of
 thy commandments we may please thee, both in
 will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.