

Psalm and Readings Thursday 23rd November 2023

Psalm 61

Hear my cry, O God;
listen to my prayer.
From the end of the earth I call to you,
when my heart is faint.

Lead me to the rock
that is higher than I;
for you are my refuge,
a strong tower against the enemy.

Let me abide in your tent for ever,
find refuge under the shelter of your wings.
For you, O God, have heard my vows;
you have given me the heritage of those who
fear your name.

Prolong the life of the king;
may his years endure to all generations!
May he be enthroned for ever before God;
appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to
watch over him!

So I will always sing praises to your name,
as I pay my vows day after day.

Isaiah 10:33-11:9

Look, the Sovereign, the Lord of hosts,
will lop the boughs with terrifying power;
the tallest trees will be cut down,
and the lofty will be brought low.
He will hack down the thickets of the forest with
an axe,
and Lebanon with its majestic trees will fall.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the
Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the
earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his
mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the
wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the
asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the
adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the
Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

Matthew 8:14-22

When Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his
mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever; he
touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she
got up and began to serve him. That evening they
brought to him many who were possessed by
demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word,
and cured all who were sick. This was to fulfil
what had been spoken through the prophet
Isaiah, 'He took our infirmities and bore our
diseases.'

Now when Jesus saw great crowds around him,
he gave orders to go over to the other side. A
scribe then approached and said, 'Teacher, I will
follow you wherever you go.' And Jesus said to
him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have
nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his
head.' Another of his disciples said to him, 'Lord,
first let me go and bury my father.' But Jesus said
to him, 'Follow me, and let the dead bury their
own dead.'

The Collect of the Day

O Lord, we beseech thee, absolve thy people from their offences; that through thy bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the bands of those sins, which by our frailty we have committed: Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour.
Amen