

Psalm and Readings Friday 30th August 2024

Psalm 142

With my voice I cry to the Lord;
with my voice I make supplication to the Lord.

I pour out my complaint before him;
I tell my trouble before him.

When my spirit is faint,
you know my way.

In the path where I walk
they have hidden a trap for me.
Look on my right hand and see—
there is no one who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me;
no one cares for me.

I cry to you, O Lord;
I say, 'You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living.'
Give heed to my cry,
for I am brought very low.

Save me from my persecutors,
for they are too strong for me.
Bring me out of prison,
so that I may give thanks to your name.
The righteous will surround me,
for you will deal bountifully with me.

2 Samuel 23:1–7

Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

The spirit of the Lord speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.
The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,
is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

Is not my house like this with God?

For he has made with me an everlasting
covenant,

ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?

But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown
away;

for they cannot be picked up with the hand;
to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.

And they are entirely consumed in fire on the
spot.

Acts 12:18–end

When morning came, there was no small
commotion among the soldiers over what had
become of Peter. When Herod had searched for
him and could not find him, he examined the
guards and ordered them to be put to death.
Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and
stayed there.

Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre
and Sidon. So they came to him in a body; and
after winning over Blastus, the king's
chamberlain, they asked for a reconciliation,
because their country depended on the king's
country for food. On an appointed day Herod put
on his royal robes, took his seat on the platform,
and delivered a public address to them. The
people kept shouting, 'The voice of a god, and not
of a mortal!' And immediately, because he had
not given the glory to God, an angel of the Lord
struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and
died.

But the word of God continued to advance and
gain adherents. Then after completing their
mission Barnabas and Saul returned to Jerusalem
and brought with them John, whose other name
was Mark.

The Collect of the Day

God of peace,
who called your servant John Bunyan
to be valiant for truth:
grant that as strangers and pilgrims
we may at the last rejoice with all Christian
people
 in your heavenly city;
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.
Amen

A prayer for this time of transition

Faithful and loving God
we hold our Benefice before you in this time of
uncertainty.
Be with us in our waiting, in our expectation and
in our preparation as we seek our new
Incumbent.
Be with our new incumbent as he or she also
waits, expects and prepares.
Bring us together in love for you and for this
Benefice,
and be our light for the way ahead.
In Jesus' name,
Amen