

## Psalm and Readings Tuesday 10th September 2024

### Psalm 32

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no  
iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.  
For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of  
summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not hide my iniquity;  
I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the  
Lord', and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful  
offer prayer to you;  
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters  
shall not reach them.  
You are a hiding-place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you the way you  
should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.  
Do not be like a horse or a mule, without  
understanding,  
whose temper must be curbed with bit and  
bridle, else it will not stay near you.

Many are the torments of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in  
the Lord.  
Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

### 1 Kings 8:63 – 9:9

Solomon offered as sacrifices of well-being to the  
Lord twenty-two thousand oxen and one hundred  
and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all  
the people of Israel dedicated the house of the  
Lord. The same day the king consecrated the  
middle of the court that was in front of the house  
of the Lord; for there he offered the burnt-  
offerings and the grain-offerings and the fat  
pieces of the sacrifices of well-being, because the

bronze altar that was before the Lord was too  
small to receive the burnt-offerings and the grain-  
offerings and the fat pieces of the sacrifices of  
well-being.

So Solomon held the festival at that time, and all  
Israel with him—a great assembly, people from  
Lebo-hamath to the Wadi of Egypt—before the  
Lord our God, for seven days. On the eighth day  
he sent the people away; and they blessed the  
king, and went to their tents, joyful and in good  
spirits because of all the goodness that the Lord  
had shown to his servant David and to his people  
Israel.

When Solomon had finished building the house of  
the Lord and the king's house and all that  
Solomon desired to build, the Lord appeared to  
Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to  
him at Gibeon. The Lord said to him, 'I have heard  
your prayer and your plea, which you made  
before me; I have consecrated this house that you  
have built, and put my name there for ever; my  
eyes and my heart will be there for all time. As for  
you, if you will walk before me, as David your  
father walked, with integrity of heart and  
uprightness, doing according to all that I have  
commanded you, and keeping my statutes and  
my ordinances, then I will establish your royal  
throne over Israel for ever, as I promised your  
father David, saying, "There shall not fail you a  
successor on the throne of Israel."

'If you turn aside from following me, you or your  
children, and do not keep my commandments  
and my statutes that I have set before you, but go  
and serve other gods and worship them, then I  
will cut Israel off from the land that I have given  
them; and the house that I have consecrated for  
my name I will cast out of my sight; and Israel will  
become a proverb and a taunt among all peoples.  
This house will become a heap of ruins; everyone  
passing by it will be astonished, and will hiss; and  
they will say, "Why has the Lord done such a  
thing to this land and to this house?" Then they  
will say, "Because they have forsaken the Lord  
their God, who brought their ancestors out of the  
land of Egypt, and embraced other gods,  
worshipping them and serving them; therefore  
the Lord has brought this disaster upon them.'"

## **Acts 16:25-end**

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

When morning came, the magistrates sent the police, saying, 'Let those men go.' And the jailer reported the message to Paul, saying, 'The magistrates sent word to let you go; therefore come out now and go in peace.' But Paul replied, 'They have beaten us in public, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they going to discharge us in secret? Certainly not! Let them come and take us out themselves.' The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens; so they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city. After leaving the prison they went to Lydia's home; and when they had seen and encouraged the brothers and sisters there, they departed.

## **The Collect of the Day**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:  
grant that your people may be fervent  
in the fellowship of the gospel  
that, always abiding in you,  
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;  
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.

## **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