

## Psalm and Readings Tuesday 14th January 2025

### Psalm 8

O Lord, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.  
Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your  
foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your  
fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have  
established;  
what are human beings that you are mindful of  
them,  
mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honour.  
You have given them dominion over the works of  
your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,  
all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### Amos 2

Thus says the Lord:  
For three transgressions of Moab,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;  
because he burned to lime  
the bones of the king of Edom.  
So I will send a fire on Moab,  
and it shall devour the strongholds of Kerioth,  
and Moab shall die amid uproar,  
amid shouting and the sound of the trumpet;  
I will cut off the ruler from its midst,  
and will kill all its officials with him,  
says the Lord.

Thus says the Lord:  
For three transgressions of Judah,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;  
because they have rejected the law of the Lord,

and have not kept his statutes,  
but they have been led astray by the same lies  
after which their ancestors walked.  
So I will send a fire on Judah,  
and it shall devour the strongholds of  
Jerusalem.

Thus says the Lord:  
For three transgressions of Israel,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;  
because they sell the righteous for silver,  
and the needy for a pair of sandals—  
they who trample the head of the poor into the  
dust of the earth,  
and push the afflicted out of the way;  
father and son go in to the same girl,  
so that my holy name is profaned;  
they lay themselves down beside every altar  
on garments taken in pledge;  
and in the house of their God they drink  
wine bought with fines they imposed.

Yet I destroyed the Amorite before them,  
whose height was like the height of cedars,  
and who was as strong as oaks;  
I destroyed his fruit above, and his roots beneath.  
Also I brought you up out of the land of Egypt,  
and led you for forty years in the wilderness,  
to possess the land of the Amorite.  
And I raised up some of your children to be  
prophets and some of your youths to be nazirites.  
Is it not indeed so, O people of Israel?  
says the Lord.

But you made the nazirites drink wine,  
and commanded the prophets,  
saying, 'You shall not prophesy.'

So, I will press you down in your place,  
just as a cart presses down  
when it is full of sheaves.  
Flight shall perish from the swift,  
and the strong shall not retain their strength,  
nor shall the mighty save their lives;  
those who handle the bow shall not stand,  
and those who are swift of foot shall not save  
themselves,  
nor shall those who ride horses save their lives;  
and those who are stout of heart among the  
mighty shall flee away naked on that day,  
says the Lord.

## **1 Corinthians 1:18-end**

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.’

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, ‘Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.’

## **The Collect of the Day**

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
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 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