

Psalm and Readings Thursday 10th April 2025

Psalm 125

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides for ever.
As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the Lord surrounds his people,
from this time on and for evermore.
For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
so that the righteous may not stretch out
their hands to do wrong.
Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts.
But those who turn aside to their own crooked
ways
the Lord will lead away with evildoers.
Peace be upon Israel!

Jeremiah 23:9-32

Concerning the prophets:
My heart is crushed within me,
all my bones shake;
I have become like a drunkard,
like one overcome by wine,
because of the Lord
and because of his holy words.
For the land is full of adulterers;
because of the curse the land mourns,
and the pastures of the wilderness are dried up.
Their course has been evil,
and their might is not right.
Both prophet and priest are ungodly;
even in my house I have found their
wickedness, says the Lord.
Therefore their way shall be to them
like slippery paths in the darkness,
into which they shall be driven and fall;
for I will bring disaster upon them
in the year of their punishment,
says the Lord.
In the prophets of Samaria
I saw a disgusting thing:
they prophesied by Baal
and led my people Israel astray.
But in the prophets of Jerusalem
I have seen a more shocking thing:
they commit adultery and walk in lies;
they strengthen the hands of evildoers,
so that no one turns from wickedness;

all of them have become like Sodom to me,
and its inhabitants like Gomorrah.
Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts concerning
the prophets:
'I am going to make them eat wormwood,
and give them poisoned water to drink;
for from the prophets of Jerusalem
ungodliness has spread throughout the land.'

Thus says the Lord of hosts: Do not listen to the
words of the prophets who prophesy to you; they
are deluding you. They speak visions of their own
minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. They
keep saying to those who despise the word of the
Lord, 'It shall be well with you'; and to all who
stubbornly follow their own stubborn hearts, they
say, 'No calamity shall come upon you.'

For who has stood in the council of the Lord
so as to see and to hear his word?
Who has given heed to his word so as to
proclaim it?
Look, the storm of the Lord!
Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest;
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.
The anger of the Lord will not turn back
until he has executed and accomplished
the intents of his mind.
In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

I did not send the prophets, yet they ran;
I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied.
But if they had stood in my council,
then they would have proclaimed my words to
my people,
and they would have turned them from their evil
way, and from the evil of their doings.

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God
far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I
cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill
heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard
what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in
my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have
dreamed!' How long? Will the hearts of the
prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy
lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own
heart? They plan to make my people forget my
name by their dreams that they tell one another,
just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal.

Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces? See, therefore, I am against the prophets, says the Lord, who steal my words from one another. See, I am against the prophets, says the Lord, who use their own tongues and say, 'Says the Lord.' See, I am against those who prophesy lying dreams, says the Lord, and who tell them, and who lead my people astray by their lies and their recklessness, when I did not send them or appoint them; so they do not profit this people at all, says the Lord.

John 12:12-19

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord— the King of Israel!'

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!'

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, 'You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!'

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

The Collect of the Day

We beseech thee, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon thy people; that by thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.