



ANGLICAN
DIOCESE of
OTTAWA

We acknowledge that our Diocese is located on traditional Algonquin and Mohawk territory.

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Metcalfe.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost_ 04 July 2021

Morning Prayer

(Adapted from the Book of Alternative Services.)

Officiant: O Lord, open Thou our lips,

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

People: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lord is our light and our life:

O come, let us worship.

Jubilate - Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; ***serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *** he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *** give thanks to him and call upon his name.**

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *** and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

The Proclamation of the Word.

First Reading

A READING FROM THE SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The Lord said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a

covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. And David became greater and greater, for the Lord, the God of hosts, was with him.

2 SAMUEL 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalm 48

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; * **in the city of our God is his holy hill.**

Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, * **the very centre of the world and the city of the great king.**

God is in her citadels; * **he is known to be her sure refuge.**

Behold, the kings of the earth assembled and marched forward together. * **They looked and were astounded; they retreated and fled in terror.**

Trembling seized them there; they writhed like a woman in childbirth, * **like ships of the sea when the east wind shatters them.**

As we have heard, so have we seen, in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God; * **God has established her for ever.**

We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, * **in the midst of your temple.**

Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end; * **your right hand is full of justice.**

Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, * **because of your judgements.**

Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about her; * **count the number of her towers.**

Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds; that you may tell those who come after. * **This God is our God for ever and ever; he shall be our guide for evermore.**

Second Reading

A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I

will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-10

Holy Gospel.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honour, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

MARK 6:1-13

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

SERMON

We continue today to follow the early history of the Israelites after they had entered the Promised land. The original occupiers of the land, the Canaanites, and others, fought them every step of the way. We remember too that their King, Saul, who was the popular choice of the people, was killed in battle, along with his son, Jonathon. Thus, there was no natural heir to the throne. Meanwhile, David, who had served as a Commander in Saul's army, has not only killed the great

Goliath, but he has also successfully led his troops into battle after battle. The people now began to realize that David, who was probably now around thirty years old, should be their new King. This was not the first time, nor the last, that Israel finally came around to recognize that Yahweh's way is the best way. So, David became the new King, and he quickly conquered Jerusalem and began to develop it into what would become the greatest city in the world.

Today's psalm is filled with adoration for this new city, built on and around Mount Zion, and it becomes known as the new city of David. However, despite the beauty of this magnificent city, under David's guidance the Israelites were never allowed to forget that it was the power of their God which enabled them to own it and to keep it.

As we continue to read about Paul's admonitions to the new Christians in Corinth, he sternly rebuffs his critics. Because he was a Roman citizen, they questioned his loyalty to his Jewish heritage and even suggested that they were superior to him in interpreting scripture and envisioning for the future. Paul is quick to point out his sufferings and hardships which he gladly endured for the cause of Christ. He says he is not boasting about them but believes that they were moments of great weakness in which he was made strong by the power of God. For the sake of Christ, he says, when he was weak, he was effectively showing God's power. In other words, those Corinthians who had never experience the anguish of having been beaten for their faith, could never understand what being a true apostle was all about.

In Mark's Gospel for today we read of another challenge facing Jesus. On the one hand he is performing miracles in front of the crowds and earning their reverence, but on the other hand, when he comes to his own hometown, the people rebuff him. He had recently recruited the twelve disciples and he is instructing them by showing them that he has power over nature, sickness and even death. But his own people aren't buying it. When he speaks in the synagogue, he amazes the people but they in turn begin to question him even doubt that his power comes from God. Some wonder if he is a magician or even using the power of Beelzebub, the devil. They know his background, the son of Mary and Joseph. They know his brothers and sisters. So, they took offence at him and rejected him. Jesus rebuts them by reminding them that when Israel rejects her prophets, no good thing can come from that.

Scriptures really don't tell us how Jesus must have felt about being rejected by his own people. We do know that he didn't stay very long in his hometown but quickly moved out into the more rural area around the sea of Galilee. Interestingly, and for reasons we don't yet understand, Jesus stayed away from the big cities, like Jerusalem. Perhaps he knew that these would be death traps for him as spies were all over the place. Now he begins to send his twelve out to minister and to assist in proclaiming the good news.

In all these readings we are reminded of some essential truths which are true in every age, including our own. Faithfulness to God always leads to a successful outcome. Prayerful petitioning to God always leads to answers which will bring strength and healing. Being rejected by others can perhaps be expected when one is loyal to his or her faith but can lead to an even greater relationship with God. When we are the weakest and most discouraged, we open ourselves up to being strengthened and encouraged. When we are loyal to God and to one another we can receive that sense of peace which passes all understanding.

In conclusion let me thank those of you who have sent in their responses to the Shape of Ministry questions. Let me also encourage others of who you have not yet responded. Our Congregation needs your thinking. Responses may be sent anonymously. Finally, please don't hesitate to contact any of us if you have questions or need direction.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings: Litany # 4

(In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear and have mercy.")

We pray for all who confess the name of Christ: fill us with the power of your Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for those whose lives are bound in mutual love, and for those who live in celibacy: be their joy and their strength.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all in danger, for those who are far from home, prisoners, exiles, victims of oppression: grant them your salvation.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who are facing trials and difficulties, for those who are sick, and those who are dying: show them your kindness and mercy.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for one another: may we always be united in service and love.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray to be forgiven our sins and set free from all hardship, distress, want, war, and injustice.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

May we discover new and just ways of sharing the goods of the earth, struggling against exploitation, greed, or lack of concern: may we all live by the abundance of your mercies and find joy together.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

May we be strengthened by our communion with all Christ's saints.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Thomas the Apostle, Ottawa, and their Priest, The Reverend Tim Kehoe. We pray also for St. Thomas, Woodlawn, St. George's, Fitzroy Harbour, and their Priest, The Reverend John Stopa.

We ask you to watch over all our parish family, remembering especially Zachariah, Marjorie, Cheryl, Jeanette, Roy, Emerson, Irene, and their families.

The Collect of the Day:

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love fulfils the law.
May we love you with all our heart,
all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength,
and may we love our neighbour as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Lord's Prayer:

Officiant: Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

All: *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen*