



COLLECT, READINGS AND REFLECTION
SUNDAY 23 JUNE 2024 - TRINITY 5

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 30

- 1 I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have raised me up ♦
and have not let my foes triumph over me.
- 2 O Lord my God, I cried out to you ♦
and you have healed me.
- 3 You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; ♦
you restored me to life from among those that go down to the Pit.
- 4 Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; ♦
give thanks to his holy name.
- 5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favour for a lifetime. ♦
Heaviness may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.
- 6 In my prosperity I said, 'I shall never be moved. ♦
You, Lord, of your goodness, have made my hill so strong.'
- 7 Then you hid your face from me ♦
and I was utterly dismayed.
- 8 To you, O Lord, I cried; ♦
to the Lord I made my supplication:
- 9 'What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? ♦
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?
- 10 'Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; ♦
O Lord, be my helper.'
- 11 You have turned my mourning into dancing; ♦
you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with gladness;
- 12 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; ♦
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah, chapter 3, verses 22-33

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.'

The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth,
to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it,
to put one's mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope),
to give one's cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults.

For the Lord will not reject for ever.

Although he causes grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

At Morning Prayer, the Gospel is simply the second reading, people sit to hear it and is introduced in the same way as the first:

The second reading is from Mark, chapter 4, verses 35-41.

and then at the end:

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

For Eucharists/ Communion people stand to hear the Gospel and it is introduced with an Acclamation, as below:

Alleluia. **Alleluia.**

Harden not your hearts today; listen to the voice of the Lord.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark, chapter 5, verses 21-43.

Glory to you, O Lord

And then at the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Mark 5.21-43

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered round him; and he was by the lake. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, 'My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.' So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, 'If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.' Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' And his disciples said to him, 'You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, "Who touched me?" ' He looked all round to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.'

While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?' But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, 'Do not fear, only believe.' He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, 'Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha cum', which means, 'Little girl, get up!' And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

A Reflection from Peter...

Today's readings stand in stark contrast to one another: the Gospel is a tangle of anxiety and activity. It feels a bit like a day in a UK A&E department at the moment where overworked staff are trying to respond to one emergency when another comes and interrupts them... By contrast, the first reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah has an incredible serenity and peace about it: 'The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases... it is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord...'

Of course, the two are inseparable, though we are not always able to hold on to the serenity in the midst of turmoil and worry. The point here is, however, not so much about what we do, but about what God does. It is God whose steadfast love never ceases. It is God who is the one who heals and saves. Thus, in the Gospel we see God at work, anticipating the healing and restoring of all things, as Jesus brings new hope to the woman who does nothing more than touch his cloak and restores the life of Jairus' daughter. These healings are not so much indicators of a kind of divine NHS where everyone will receive the treatment they need, but pointers to God's intention that 'all should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.' Jesus, within in the limitations of human being cannot heal everyone, but he does demonstrate the more important truth that "the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.'