

Morning Prayer and Psalms w/c 19th October

Monday, 19 October: Henry Martyn

Psalm 98 *Refrain: The Lord has made known his salvation.*

¹Sing to the Lord a new song, ♦ for he has done marvellous things.

²His own right hand and his holy arm ♦ have won for him the victory.

³The Lord has made known his salvation; ♦ his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

⁴He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of Israel, ♦
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. *R*

⁵Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; ♦ break into singing and make music.

⁶Make music to the Lord with the lyre, ♦ with the lyre and the voice of melody.

⁷With trumpets and the sound of the horn ♦ sound praises before the Lord, the King. *R*

⁸Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, ♦ the world and all that dwell upon it.

⁹Let the rivers clap their hands ♦
and let the hills ring out together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.

¹⁰In righteousness shall he judge the world ♦ and the peoples with equity.

Lord God, just and true, you make your salvation known in the sight of the nations; tune the song of our hearts to the music of creation as you come among us to judge the earth; through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1.1-11

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The Collect of the day is said

Almighty God,

who by your Holy Spirit gave Henry Martyn a longing to tell the good news of Christ

and skill to translate the Scriptures: by the same Spirit give us grace to offer you our gifts,

wherever you may lead, at whatever the cost; 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. **Amen**

Tuesday, 20 October

Psalm 106* *Refrain: The Lord remembered his covenant.*

- ¹Alleluia. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, ♦ for his faithfulness endures for ever.
- ²Who can express the mighty acts of the Lord ♦ or show forth all his praise?
- ³Blessed are those who observe what is right ♦ and always do what is just.
- ⁴Remember me, O Lord, in the favour you bear for your people; ♦ visit me in the day of your salvation;
- ⁵That I may see the prosperity of your chosen and rejoice in the gladness of your people, ♦
and exult with your inheritance. *R*
- ⁶We have sinned like our forebears; ♦ we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.
- ⁷In Egypt they did not consider your wonders, nor remember the abundance of your faithful love; ♦
they rebelled against the Most High at the Red Sea.
- ⁸But he saved them for his name's sake, ♦ that he might make his power to be known.
- ⁹He rebuked the Red Sea and it was dried up; ♦
so he led them through the deep as through the wilderness.
- ¹⁰He saved them from the adversary's hand ♦ and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
- ¹¹As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed them; ♦ there was not one of them left.
- ¹²Then they believed his words ♦ and sang aloud his praise. *R*
- ¹³But soon they forgot his deeds ♦ and would not wait for his counsel.
- ¹⁴A craving seized them in the wilderness, ♦ and they put God to the test in the desert.
- ¹⁵He gave them their desire, ♦ but sent a wasting sickness among them.
- ¹⁶They grew jealous of Moses in the camp ♦ and of Aaron, the holy one of the Lord.
- ¹⁷So the earth opened and swallowed up Dathan ♦ and covered the company of Abiram.
- ¹⁸A fire was kindled in their company; ♦ the flame burnt up the wicked. *R*
- ¹⁹They made a calf at Horeb ♦ and worshipped the molten image;
- ²⁰Thus they exchanged their glory ♦ for the image of an ox that feeds on hay.
- ²¹They forgot God their saviour, ♦ who had done such great things in Egypt,
- ²²Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham ♦ and fearful things at the Red Sea.
- ²³So he would have destroyed them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, ♦
to turn away his wrath from consuming them. *R*
- ²⁴Then they scorned the Promised Land ♦ and would not believe his word,
- ²⁵But murmured in their tents ♦ and would not heed the voice of the Lord.
- ²⁶So he lifted his hand against them ♦ and swore to overthrow them in the wilderness,
- ²⁷To disperse their descendants among the nations, ♦ and to scatter them throughout the lands. *R*
- ²⁸They joined themselves to the Baal of Peor ♦ and ate sacrifices offered to the dead.
- ²⁹They provoked him to anger with their evil deeds ♦ and a plague broke out among them.
- ³⁰Then Phinehas stood up and interceded ♦ and so the plague was stayed.
- ³¹This was counted to him for righteousness ♦ throughout all generations for ever.
- ³²They angered him also at the waters of Meribah, ♦ so that Moses suffered for their sake;
- ³³For they so embittered his spirit ♦ that he spoke rash words with his lips. *R*
- ³⁴They did not destroy the peoples ♦ as the Lord had commanded them.
- ³⁵They mingled with the nations ♦ and learned to follow their ways,
- ³⁶So that they worshipped their idols, ♦ which became to them a snare.
- ³⁷Their own sons and daughters ♦ they sacrificed to evil spirits.
- ³⁸They shed innocent blood, ♦ the blood of their sons and daughters,
- ³⁹Which they offered to the idols of Canaan, ♦ and the land was defiled with blood.
- ⁴⁰Thus were they polluted by their actions, ♦ and in their wanton deeds went whoring after other gods. *R*
- ⁴¹Therefore was the wrath of the Lord kindled against his people, ♦ and he abhorred his inheritance.
- ⁴²He gave them over to the hand of the nations, ♦ and those who hated them ruled over them.
- ⁴³So their enemies oppressed them ♦ and put them in subjection under their hand.
- ⁴⁴Many a time did he deliver them, but they rebelled through their own devices ♦
and were brought down through their wickedness.

⁴⁵Nevertheless, he saw their adversity, ♦ when he heard their lamentation.

⁴⁶He remembered his covenant with them ♦ and relented according to the greatness of his faithful love.

⁴⁷He made them also to be pitied ♦ by all who had taken them captive. *R*

⁴⁸Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, ♦
that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.

⁴⁹Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting and to everlasting; ♦
and let all the people say, Amen. Alleluia.

*Holy God, when our memories blot out your kindness and we ignore your patient love,
remember us, re-make us, and give to us poor sinners the rich inheritance of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Philippians 1.12-end

I want you to know, beloved, that what has happened to me has actually helped to spread the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ; and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear.

Some proclaim Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from goodwill. These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defence of the gospel; the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true; and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will result in my deliverance. It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Wednesday, 21 October

Psalm 110

Refrain: The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.

¹The Lord said to my lord, 'Sit at my right hand, ♦ until I make your enemies your footstool.'

²May the Lord stretch forth the sceptre of your power; ♦ rule from Zion in the midst of your enemies.

³Noble are you on this day of your birth; ♦

on the holy mountain, from the womb of the dawn the dew of your new birth is upon you.' *R*

⁴The Lord has sworn and will not retract: ♦ 'You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.'

⁵The king at your right hand, O Lord, ♦ shall smite down kings in the day of his wrath. *R*

⁶In all his majesty, he shall judge among the nations, ♦ smiting heads over all the wide earth.

⁷He shall drink from the brook beside the way; ♦ therefore shall he lift high his head.

Lord Jesus, divine Son and eternal priest, inspire us with the confidence of your final conquest of evil, and grant that daily on our way we may drink of the brook of your eternal life and so find courage against all adversities; for your mercy's sake.

Philippians 2.1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Thursday, 22 October

Psalm 113 Refrain: *From the rising of the sun to its setting let the name of the Lord be praised.*

¹Alleluia. Give praise, you servants of the Lord, ♦ O praise the name of the Lord.

²Blessed be the name of the Lord, ♦ from this time forth and for evermore.

³From the rising of the sun to its setting ♦ let the name of the Lord be praised.

⁴The Lord is high above all nations ♦ and his glory above the heavens. *R*

⁵Who is like the Lord our God, that has his throne so high, ♦
yet humbles himself to behold the things of heaven and earth?

⁶He raises the poor from the dust ♦ and lifts the needy from the ashes,

⁷To set them with princes, ♦ with the princes of his people.

⁸He gives the barren woman a place in the house ♦ and makes her a joyful mother of children.

Alleluia.

*From the rising of the sun to its setting we praise your name, O Lord;
may your promise to raise the poor from the dust and turn the fortunes of the needy upside down
be fulfilled in our time also, as it was in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Philippians 2.14-end

Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labour in vain. But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you—and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered by news of you. I have no one like him who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. All of them are seeking their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But Timothy's worth you know, how like a son with a father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope therefore to send him as soon as I see how things go with me; and I trust in the Lord that I will also come soon.

Still, I think it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus—my brother and co-worker and fellow-soldier, your messenger and minister to my need; for he has been longing for all of you, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. He was indeed so ill that he nearly died. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, so that I would not have one sorrow after another. I am the more eager to send him, therefore, in order that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. Welcome him then in the Lord with all joy, and honour such people, because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for those services that you could not give me.

Friday, 23 October

Psalm 139

Refrain: Search me out, O God, and know my heart.

- ¹O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; ♦
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- ²You mark out my journeys and my resting place ♦ and are acquainted with all my ways.
- ³For there is not a word on my tongue, ♦ but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- ⁴You encompass me behind and before ♦ and lay your hand upon me.
- ⁵Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, ♦ so high that I cannot attain it. *R*
- ⁶Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦ Or where can I flee from your presence?
- ⁷If I climb up to heaven, you are there; ♦ if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- ⁸If I take the wings of the morning ♦ and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- ⁹Even there your hand shall lead me, ♦ your right hand hold me fast.
- ¹⁰If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me ♦ and the light around me turn to night,'
- ¹¹Even darkness is no darkness with you; the night is as clear as the day; ♦
darkness and light to you are both alike. *R*
- ¹²For you yourself created my inmost parts; ♦ you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- ¹³I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; ♦ marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.
- ¹⁴My frame was not hidden from you, ♦ when I was made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
- ¹⁵Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; ♦ already in your book were all my members written,
- ¹⁶As day by day they were fashioned ♦ when as yet there was none of them.
- ¹⁷How deep are your counsels to me, O God! ♦ How great is the sum of them!
- ¹⁸If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, ♦ and at the end, I am still in your presence. *R*
- ¹⁹O that you would slay the wicked, O God, ♦ that the bloodthirsty might depart from me!
- ²⁰They speak against you with wicked intent; ♦ your enemies take up your name for evil.
- ²¹Do I not oppose those, O Lord, who oppose you? ♦ Do I not abhor those who rise up against you?
- ²²I hate them with a perfect hatred; ♦ they have become my own enemies also.
- ²³Search me out, O God, and know my heart; ♦ try me and examine my thoughts.
- ²⁴See if there is any way of wickedness in me ♦ and lead me in the way everlasting.

Creator God, may every breath we take be for your glory, may every footstep show you as our way, that, trusting in your presence in this world, we may, beyond this life, still be with you where you are alive and reign for ever and ever.

Philippians 3.1-4.1

Finally, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord.

To write the same things to you is not troublesome to me, and for you it is a safeguard.

Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of those who mutilate the flesh! For it is we who are the circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh—even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.