

Readings + 21st Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 29 B + October 17, 2021

Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

First Reading Isaiah 53:4-12

- ⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
- ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- ⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
- ⁸ By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
- ⁹ They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.
- ¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him
with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong
his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.
- ¹¹ Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make
many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
- ¹² Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,

and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Psalmody Psalm 91:9-16

Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,
**no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction
come near your dwelling.**

For God will give the angels charge over you, to
guard you in all your ways.

**Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest
you strike your foot against a stone.**

You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you
will trample down the lion and the serpent.

**I will deliver those who cling to me; I will
uphold them, because they know my name.**

They will call me, and I will answer them; I will
be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor
them.

**With long life will I satisfy them, and show
them my salvation.**

Second Reading Hebrews 5:1-10

Every high priest chosen from among mortals
is put in charge of things pertaining to God on
their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

² He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and
wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness;

³ and because of this he must offer sacrifice for
his own sins as well as for those of the people.

⁴ And one does not presume to take this honor,
but takes it only when called by God, just as
Aaron was.

⁵ So also Christ did not glorify himself in
becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the
one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I
have begotten you"; ⁶ as he says also in another
place, "You are a priest forever, according to the
order of Melchizedek."

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up
prayers and supplications, with loud cries and
tears, to the one who was able to save him from

death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸ Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹ and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰ having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Holy Gospel Mark 10:[32-34] 35-45

The assigned reading follows Jesus' third Passion prediction, so we will read those verses to provide that context. The main story of James and John is in both Matthew and Mark, though Matthew says it was their mother who asked the favor. Luke picks up the narrative at verse 42, sharing how Jesus reveals the Way of Christ is radically different from the way of the world.

[Adding verses 32-34]: ³² *The disciples* were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³ saying, "See we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴ they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him,

and kill him; and after three days he will rise again."]

³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

³⁶ And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷ And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

³⁹ They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."