

Readings + The Holy Trinity, year B + Sunday, May 26, 2024

Prayer of the Day

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen

First Reading Isaiah 6:1-8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of the Lord's robe filled the temple.

²Seraphs were in attendance above the Lord; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said,

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of the glory of the LORD."

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.

⁵And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the Sovereign, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."

⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Psalmody Psalm 29

Ascribe to *Adonai**, you gods, ascribe to Adonai glory and strength.

Ascribe to Adonai the glory due God's name; worship Adonai in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of Adonai is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; Adonai is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of Adonai is a powerful voice; the voice of Adonai is a voice of splendor.

The voice of Adonai breaks the cedar trees; Adonai breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

Adonai makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of Adonai bursts forth in lightning flashes.

The voice of Adonai shakes the wilderness; Adonai shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of Adonai makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of Adonai all are crying, "Glory!"

Adonai sits enthroned above the flood; Adonai sits enthroned as sovereign forevermore.

Adonai, give strength to your people; give them, Adonai, the blessings of peace.

**Our Jewish siblings substitute "Adonai" (ah-doh-NIGH), the Hebrew word for Lord, for saying the proper name of God. English translations usually use the English word LORD, and print it in small caps. It's eye-opening to hear how it sounds instead of "Lord."*

Second Reading Romans 8:12-17

Paul writes: ¹²So then, my dear family, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with Christ so that we may also be glorified with Christ.

Holy Gospel John 3:1-17

This story and teachings are only in John's Gospel.

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jewish people. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³ Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the reign of God without being born from above."

⁴ Nicodemus said to Jesus, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the reign of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from

or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹ Nicodemus said to Jesus, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ "I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not trust, how can you trust if I tell you about heavenly things?"

¹³ "No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son-of-Humanity. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son-of-Humanity be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever trusts in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that God gave the Son, the only begotten one, so that everyone who trusts in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."