Morning Prayer

Monday after the Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.

Psalm 19:4

Invitatory and Psalter **BCP p. 80**

*Officiant*Lord, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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.
Alleluia.

Venite ***Psalm 95:1-7***

The Lord is glorious in his saints: Come, let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
  let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
  and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
  and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
  and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
  and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
  and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
  Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
The Lord is glorious in his saints: Come, let us adore him.

Psalm 56 **BCP p. 662**

Have mercy on me, O God, for my enemies are hounding me; *
  all day long they assault and oppress me.
They hound me all the day long; *
  truly there are many who fight against me, O Most High.
Whenever I am afraid, *
  I will put my trust in you.
In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust and will not be afraid, *
  for what can flesh do to me?

All day long they damage my cause; *
   their only thought is to do me evil.
They band together; they lie in wait; *
   they spy upon my footsteps; because they seek my life.
Shall they escape despite their wickedness? *
   O God, in your anger, cast down the peoples.
You have noted my lamentation; put my tears into your bottle; *
   are they not recorded in your book?
Whenever I call upon you, my enemies will be put to flight; *
   this I know, for God is on my side.
In God the LORD, whose word I praise, in God I trust and will not be afraid, *
   for what can mortals do to me?
I am bound by the vow I made to you, O God; *
   I will present to you thank-offerings;
For you have rescued my soul from death and my feet from stumbling, *
   that I may walk before God in the light of the living.

Psalm 57 **BCP p. 663**

Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful, for I have taken refuge in you; *
   in the shadow of your wings will I take refuge until this time of trouble has gone by.
I will call upon the Most High God, *
   the God who maintains my cause.
He will send from heaven and save me; he will confound those who trample upon me; *
   God will send forth his love and his faithfulness.
I lie in the midst of lions that devour the people; *
   their teeth are spears and arrows, their tongue a sharp sword.
They have laid a net for my feet, and I am bowed low; *
   they have dug a pit before me, but have fallen into it themselves.
Exalt yourself above the heavens, O God, *
   and your glory over all the earth.
My heart is firmly fixed, O God, my heart is fixed; *
   I will sing and make melody.
Wake up, my spirit; awake, lute and harp; *
   I myself will waken the dawn.
I will confess you among the peoples, O LORD; *
   I will sing praise to you among the nations.
For your loving-kindness is greater than the heavens, *
   and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.
Exalt yourself above the heavens, O God, *
   and your glory over all the earth.

Psalm 58 **BCP p. 664**

Do you indeed decree righteousness, you rulers? *
   do you judge the peoples with equity?
No; you devise evil in your hearts, *
   and your hands deal out violence in the land.
The wicked are perverse from the womb; *
   liars go astray from their birth.

They are as venomous as a serpent, *
    they are like the deaf adder which stops its ears,
Which does not heed the voice of the charmer, *
    no matter how skillful his charming.
O God, break their teeth in their mouths; *
    pull the fangs of the young lions, O LORD.
Let them vanish like water that runs off; *
    let them wither like trodden grass.
Let them be like the snail that melts away, *
    like a stillborn child that never sees the sun.
Before they bear fruit, let them be cut down like a brier; *
    like thorns and thistles let them be swept away.
The righteous will be glad when they see the vengeance; *
    they will bathe their feet in the blood of the wicked.
And they will say, "Surely, there is a reward for the righteous; *
    surely, there is a God who rules in the earth."
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 Lessons

The First Lesson Ecclus. 38:24-34

A Reading from the Wisdom of Ben Sira.

The wisdom of the scribe depends on the opportunity of leisure;
  only the one who has little business can become wise.
How can one become wise who handles the plough,
  and who glories in the shaft of a goad,
who drives oxen and is occupied with their work,
  and whose talk is about bulls?
He sets his heart on ploughing furrows,
  and he is careful about fodder for the heifers.
So it is with every artisan and master artisan
  who labours by night as well as by day;
those who cut the signets of seals,
  each is diligent in making a great variety;
they set their heart on painting a lifelike image,
  and they are careful to finish their work.
So it is with the smith, sitting by the anvil,
  intent on his ironwork;
the breath of the fire melts his flesh,
  and he struggles with the heat of the furnace;
the sound of the hammer deafens his ears,
  and his eyes are on the pattern of the object.
He sets his heart on finishing his handiwork,
  and he is careful to complete its decoration.
So it is with is the potter sitting at his work
  and turning the wheel with his feet;
he is always deeply concerned over his products,

and he produces them in quantity.
He moulds the clay with his arm
and makes it pliable with his feet;
he sets his heart on finishing the glazing,
and he takes care in firing the kiln.

All these rely on their hands,
and all are skilful in their own work.
Without them no city can be inhabited,
and wherever they live, they will not go hungry.
Yet they are not sought out for the council of the people,
nor do they attain eminence in the public assembly.
They do not sit in the judge's seat,
nor do they understand the decisions of the courts;
they cannot expound discipline or judgement,
and they are not found among the rulers.
But they maintain the fabric of the world,
and their concern is for the exercise of their trade.

How different the one who devotes himself
to the study of the law of the Most High!

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

9. The First Song of Isaiah ***Isaiah 12:2-6***

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
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 Second Lesson Luke 12:49-59

A Reading from the Gospel According to Luke.

"I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time? "And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? Thus, when you go with your accuser before a magistrate, on the way make an effort to settle the case, or you may be dragged before the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer throw you in prison. I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

19. The Song of the Redeemed ***Revelation 15:3-4***

O ruler of the universe, Lord God, great deeds are they that you have done, *
surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, *
O King of all the ages.
Who can fail to do you homage, Lord, and sing the praises of your Name? *
for you only are the Holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, *
because your just and holy works have been revealed.
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 Apostles' Creed **BCP p. 96**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers **BCP p. 97**

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The General Thanksgiving **BCP p. 101**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13