

# August 23

## The Collect

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Old Testament

### Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel:

"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

## The Psalm

### Psalm 34:15-22

15

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, \*  
and his ears are open to their cry.

16

The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, \*  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

17

The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them \*  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

18

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted \*  
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

19

Many are the troubles of the righteous, \*  
but the LORD will deliver him out of them all.

20

He will keep safe all his bones; \*  
not one of them shall be broken.

21

Evil shall slay the wicked, \*  
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

22

The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, \*  
and none will be punished who trust in him.

## The Gospel

### John 6:56-69

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

# August 30

## The Collect

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Psalm

### Psalm 15

1

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?

2

Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.

3

There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

4

In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the LORD.

5

He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.

6

He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7

Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

## The Epistle

### James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

## The Gospel

### Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile. For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

# September 6

## The Collect

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Reading

### Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

**Reader 1:** A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,  
and favor is better than silver or gold.

**Reader 2:** The rich and the poor have this in common:  
the LORD is the maker of them all.

**Reader 1:** Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,  
and the rod of anger will fail.

**Reader 2:** Those who are generous are blessed,  
for they share their bread with the poor.

**Reader 1:** Do not rob the poor because they are poor,  
or crush the afflicted at the gate;

**Reader 2:** for the LORD pleads their cause  
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

## The Response

### Psalm 125, Page 781, BCP

1  
Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, \*  
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

2  
The hills stand about Jerusalem; \*  
so does the LORD stand round about his people,  
from this time forth for evermore.

3  
The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just, \*  
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.

4  
Show your goodness, O LORD, to those who are good \*  
and to those who are true of heart.

5  
As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,  
the LORD will lead them away with the evildoers; \*  
but peace be upon Israel.

Mark 7:24-37

**Priest:** Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her,

**Reader 1:** "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."

**Priest:** But she answered him,

**Reader 2:** "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

**Priest:** Then he said to her,

**Reader 1:** "For saying that, you may go-- the demon has left your daughter."

**Priest:** So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him,

**Reader 1:** "Ephphatha,"

**Priest:** that is,

**Reader 1:** "Be opened."

**Priest:** And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying,

**Reader 2:** "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

# September 13

## The Collect

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Psalm

### Psalm 116:1-8 Page 759, BCP

1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, \*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

2 The cords of death entangled me;  
the grip of the grave took hold of me; \*  
I came to grief and sorrow.

3 Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: \*  
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

4 Gracious is the LORD and righteous; \*  
our God is full of compassion.

5 The LORD watches over the innocent; \*  
I was brought very low, and he helped me.

6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul, \*  
for the LORD has treated you well.

7 For you have rescued my life from death, \*  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

8 I will walk in the presence of the LORD \*  
in the land of the living.

## The Epistle

### James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds

to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

## The Gospel

### Mark 8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

# September 20

## The Collect

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Psalm

### Psalm 54 Page 659, BCP

1

Save me, O God, by your Name; \*  
in your might, defend my cause.

2

Hear my prayer, O God; \*  
give ear to the words of my mouth.

3

For the arrogant have risen up against me,  
and the ruthless have sought my life, \*  
those who have no regard for God.

4

Behold, God is my helper; \*  
it is the Lord who sustains my life.

5

Render evil to those who spy on me; \*  
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

6

I will offer you a freewill sacrifice \*  
and praise your Name, O LORD, for it is good.

7

For you have rescued me from every trouble, \*  
and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

## The Epistle

### James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

## The Gospel

### **Mark 9:30-37**

Jesus and his disciples went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

# September 27

## The Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Psalm

### Psalm 19:7-14 Page 606-607, BCP

7

The law of the LORD is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the LORD is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8

The statutes of the LORD are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the LORD is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.

9

The fear of the LORD is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.

10

More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.

11

By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

12

Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.

13

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.

14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

## The Epistle

### James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

## The Gospel

### Mark 9:38-50

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

# October 4

## The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Psalm

### Psalm 128 Page 783, BCP

1  
Happy are they all who fear the LORD, \*  
and who follow in his ways!

2  
You shall eat the fruit of your labor; \*  
happiness and prosperity shall be yours.

3  
Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house, \*  
your children like olive shoots round about your table.

4  
The man who fears the LORD \*  
shall thus indeed be blessed.

5  
The LORD bless you from Zion, \*  
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

6  
May you live to see your children's children; \*  
may peace be upon Israel.

## The Epistle

### Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
or mortals, that you care for them?  
You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;  
you have crowned them with glory and honor,  
subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

## The Gospel

### Mark 10:2-16

**Priest:** Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked,

**Reader 1:** "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

**Priest:** He answered them,

**Reader 2:** "What did Moses command you?"

**Priest:** They said,

**Reader 2:** "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her."

**Priest:** But Jesus said to them,

**Reader 2:** "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

**Priest:** Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them,

**Reader 2:** "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

**Priest:** People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them,

**Reader 2:** "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it."

**Priest:** And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

# October 11

## The Collect

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Old Testament

### Amos 5:6-7,10-15

Seek the LORD and live,  
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,  
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.  
Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,  
and bring righteousness to the ground!  
They hate the one who reproves in the gate,  
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.  
Therefore because you trample on the poor  
and take from them levies of grain,  
you have built houses of hewn stone,  
but you shall not live in them;  
you have planted pleasant vineyards,  
but you shall not drink their wine.  
For I know how many are your transgressions,  
and how great are your sins--  
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,  
and push aside the needy in the gate.  
Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;  
for it is an evil time.  
Seek good and not evil,  
that you may live;  
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,  
just as you have said.  
Hate evil and love good,  
and establish justice in the gate;  
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,  
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

## The Psalm

### Psalm 90:12-17 Page 718, BCP

So teach us to number our days \*  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

13

Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? \*  
be gracious to your servants.

14

Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; \*  
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15

Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us \*  
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16

Show your servants your works \*  
and your splendor to their children.

17

May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; \*  
prosper the work of our hands;  
prosper our handiwork.

## The Gospel

### Mark 10:17-31

**Priest:** As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him,

**Reader 1:** "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

**Priest:** Jesus said to him,

**Reader 2:** "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'"

**Priest:** He said to him,

**Reader 1:** "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth."

**Priest:** Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said,

**Reader 2:** "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

**Priest:** When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples,

**Reader 2:** "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"

**Priest:** And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again,

**Reader 2:** "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

**Priest:** They were greatly astounded and said to one another,

**Reader 1:** "Then who can be saved?"

**Priest:** Jesus looked at them and said,

**Reader 2:** "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

**Priest:** Peter began to say to him,

**Reader 1:** "Look, we have left everything and followed you."

**Priest:** Jesus said,

**Reader 2:** "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age--houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions--and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

# October 18

## The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Old Testament

### Isaiah 53:4-12

Surely he has borne our infirmities  
and carried our diseases;  
yet we accounted him stricken,  
struck down by God, and afflicted.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
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.

## The Gospel

### Mark 10:35-45

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." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." 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?" 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; 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."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. 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. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

# October 25

## The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Old Testament

### Jeremiah 31:7-9

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
"Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and  
those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

## The Psalm

### Psalm 126 Page 782, BCP

1  
When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.  
2  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.  
3  
Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The LORD has done great things for them."  
4

The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.

5

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

6

Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.

7

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

## The Gospel

### Mark 10:46-52

**Priest:** Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say,

**Reader 2:** "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

**Priest:** Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly,

**Reader 2:** "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

**Priest:** Jesus stood still and said,

**Reader 1:** "Call him here."

**Priest:** And they called the blind man, saying to him,

**Reader 2:** "Take heart; get up, he is calling you."

**Priest:** So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him,

**Reader 1:** "What do you want me to do for you?"

**Priest:** The blind man said to him,

**Reader 2:** "My teacher, let me see again."

**Priest:** Jesus said to him,

**Reader 1:** "Go; your faith has made you well."

**Priest:** Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

# All Saints' Day November 1

## The Collect

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

## The Old Testament

### Isaiah 25:6-9

**Reader 1:** On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

**Reader 2:** And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

**Reader 1:** Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

**Reader 2:** It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

## The Epistle

### Revelation 21:1-6a

**Reader 2:** I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

**Reader 1:** "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

**Reader 2:** And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

## The Gospel

### John 11:32-44

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."