



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY



ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

YEAR A

SEASONAL GREETING

Celebrant I will make you as a light for the nations,
People **That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.**
Isaiah 49:6

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers, and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Leviticus 19:1-2,9-18

And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² “Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.
⁹ “When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. ¹⁰ And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God.
¹¹ “You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another.
¹² You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.
¹³ “You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. ¹⁴ You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.
¹⁵ “You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶ You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.
¹⁷ “You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALTER VERSES

(In said services, the psalm verses may be placed between the Epistle and the Gospel, with the congregation standing in preparation for the Gospel. At services where there is a hymn or canticle before the Gospel, the psalm might be said between the Old Testament and Epistle, the people seated.)

Psalm 71 or 71:11-23

- ¹ In you, O LORD, have I put my trust; *
let me never be put to shame.
- ² Rescue me and deliver me in your righteousness; *
incline your ear to me and save me.
- ³ Be my rock and my refuge, where I may always return; *
you have promised to help me, for you are my stronghold and my fortress.
- ⁴ Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the ungodly, *
out of the hand of the unrighteous and the cruel.
- ⁵ For you, O LORD God, are the one I long for; *
you are my hope, even from my youth.
- ⁶ Through you have I been upheld ever since I was born; *
you took me out of my mother's womb; my praise shall be always of you.
- ⁷ I have become a portent to many; *
but you are my refuge and my strength.
- ⁸ O let my mouth be filled with your praise, *
that I may sing of your glory all the day long.
- ⁹ Cast me not away in the time of old age; *
forsake me not when my strength fails me.
- ¹⁰ For my enemies speak against me, and those who lie in wait for my life take counsel together. *
They say, "God has forsaken him; pursue him and take him, for there is none to deliver him.")
- ¹¹ Go not far from me, O God; *
my God, make haste to help me.
- ¹² Let those who are my adversaries be confounded and perish; *
let those who seek to do me evil be covered with shame and dishonor.
- ¹³ As for me, I will always patiently abide, *
and will praise you more and more.
- ¹⁴ My mouth shall speak daily of your righteousness and salvation, *
for I know not the end of them.
- ¹⁵ I will go forth in the strength of the Lord God, *
and will make mention of your righteousness, yours alone.

- ¹⁶ You, O God, have taught me from my youth; *
even to this day I am telling of your wondrous works.
- ¹⁷ Forsake me not, O God, in my old age, when I am gray-headed, *
until I have proclaimed your strength to this generation, and your power to all
those who are yet to come.
- ¹⁸ Your righteousness, O God, reaches to the heavens; *
you have done great things. Who is like you, O God?
- ¹⁹ Oh, what great troubles and adversities you have shown me! And yet you have
turned and refreshed me; *
indeed, you have brought me again from the depths of the earth.
- ²⁰ You have brought me to great honor *
and comforted me on every side;
- ²¹ Therefore will I praise you and your faithfulness, O God, playing on a stringed
instrument; *
to you will I sing with the harp, O Holy One of Israel.
- ²² My lips will rejoice when I sing to you, *
and so will my soul, which you have delivered.
- ²³ My tongue also shall speak of your righteousness all the day long, *
for they are confounded and brought to shame who seek to do me evil.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 3:10-23

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. ¹¹ For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴ If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

¹⁸ Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. ¹⁹ For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness," ²⁰ and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile." ²¹ So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, ²³ and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 5:38-48

“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

OFFERTORY AND POST-COMMUNION SENTENCES

(Drawn from verses of Holy Scripture, these sentences are chosen by the celebrant or preacher to reinforce the lessons or teaching of the day.)

PROPER PREFACE

The Lord's Day

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

OR

Epiphany

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who took on our mortal flesh to reveal his glory; that he might bring us out of darkness and into his own glorious light.

Sources: The Collect of the Day is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 2019. The Psalm verses are taken from the New Coverdale Psalter of the BCP 2019. Scripture quotations are taken from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.