

*The Week of the
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Morning Prayer Readings for
May 17 - 21 2021*

Monday May 17, 2021

Please turn to page 713 We'll say Psalm 89:1-18 together.

89

Part I *Misericordias Domini*

- 1 Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.*
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.*
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:*
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"*
- 5 The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O Lord, *
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;*
- 6 For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? *
who is like the Lord among the gods?*
- 7 God is much to be feared in the council of the holy ones, *
great and terrible to all those round about him.*
- 8 Who is like you, Lord God of hosts? *
O mighty Lord, your faithfulness is all around you.*

*9 You rule the raging of the sea *
and still the surging of its waves.*

*10 You have crushed Rahab of the deep with a deadly wound; *
you have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.*

*11 Yours are the heavens; the earth also is yours; *
you laid the foundations of the world and all that is in it.*

*12 You have made the north and the south; *
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your Name.*

*13 You have a mighty arm; *
strong is your hand and high is your right hand.*

*14 Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; *
love and truth go before your face.*

*15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout! *
they walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.*

*16 They rejoice daily in your Name; *
they are jubilant in your righteousness.*

*17 For you are the glory of their strength, *
and by your favor our might is exalted.*

*18 Truly, the Lord is our ruler; *
The Holy One of Israel is our King.*

*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 first lesson is from Ezekiel 4:1-17

4 And you, O mortal, take a brick and set it before you. On it portray a city, Jerusalem; ²and put siege-works against it, and build a siege-wall against it, and cast up a ramp against it; set camps also against it, and plant battering-rams against it all round. ³Then take an iron plate and place it as an iron wall between you and the city; set your face towards it, and let it be in a state of siege, and press the siege against it. This is a sign for the house of Israel.

4 Then lie on your left side, and place the punishment of the house of Israel upon it; you shall bear their punishment for the number of the days that you lie there. ⁵For I assign to you a number of days, three hundred and ninety days, equal to the number of the years of their punishment; and so you shall bear the punishment of the house of Israel. ⁶When you have completed these, you shall lie down a second time, but on your right side, and bear the punishment of the house of Judah; forty days I assign you, one day for each year. ⁷You shall set your face towards the siege of Jerusalem, and with your arm bared you shall prophesy against it. ⁸See, I am putting cords on you so that you cannot turn from one side to the other until you have completed the days of your siege.

9 And you, take wheat and barley, beans and lentils, millet and spelt; put them into one vessel, and make bread for yourself. During the number of days that you lie on your side, three hundred and ninety days, you shall eat it. ¹⁰The food that you eat shall be twenty shekels a day by weight; at fixed times you shall eat it. ¹¹And you shall drink water by measure, one-sixth of a hin; at fixed times you shall drink. ¹²You shall eat it as a barley-cake, baking it in their sight on human dung. ¹³The Lord said, 'Thus shall the people of Israel eat their bread, unclean, among the nations to which I will drive them.' ¹⁴Then I said, 'Ah Lord God! I have never defiled myself; from my youth up until now I have never eaten what died of itself or was torn by animals, nor has carrion flesh come into my mouth.' ¹⁵Then he said to me, 'See, I will let you have cow's dung instead of human dung, on which you may prepare your bread.'

16 Then he said to me, Mortal, I am going to break the staff of bread in Jerusalem; they shall eat bread by weight and with fearfulness; and they shall drink water by measure and in dismay. ¹⁷Lacking bread and water, they will look at one another in dismay, and waste away under their punishment.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 86. We'll say **Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah** together.

The second lesson is from Hebrews 6:1-12

6 ¹Therefore let us go on towards perfection, leaving behind the basic teaching about Christ, and not laying again the foundation: repentance from dead works and faith towards God, ²instruction about baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgement. ³And we will do this, if God permits. ⁴For it is impossible to restore again to repentance those who have once been enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶and then have fallen away, since on their own they are crucifying again the Son of God and are holding him up to contempt. ⁷Ground that drinks up the rain falling on it repeatedly, and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. ⁸But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is worthless and on the verge of being cursed; its end is to be burned over.

9 Even though we speak in this way, beloved, we are confident of better things in your case, things that belong to salvation. ¹⁰For God is not unjust; he will not overlook your work and the love that you showed for his sake in serving the saints, as you still do. ¹¹And we want each one of you to show the same diligence, so as to realize the full assurance of hope to the very end, ¹²so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 94. We'll say Canticle 19, The Song of the Redeemed together.

The third lesson is from Luke 9:51-62

51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then they went on to another village.

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' ⁵⁹To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' ⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.' ⁶¹Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' ⁶²Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Please turn to page 96. We'll say **The Apostles' Creed** together.

The Collect of the day
Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*

Please return to the **Morning Prayer Bulletin**.

Tuesday May 18 2021

Please turn to page 726. We'll say Psalms 97 and 99 together.

97 *Dominus regnavit*

1 *The Lord is King;*

*let the earth rejoice; **

let the multitude of the isles be glad.

2 *Clouds and darkness are round about him, **

righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

3 *A fire goes before him **

and burns up his enemies on every side.

4 *His lightnings light up the world; **

the earth sees it and is afraid.

5 *The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, **

at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 *The heavens declare his righteousness, **

and all the peoples see his glory.

7 *Confounded be all who worship carved images*

*and delight in false gods! **

Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 *Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, **

because of your judgments, O Lord.

9 *For you are the Lord,*

*most high over all the earth; **

you are exalted far above all gods.

10 *The Lord loves those who hate evil; **

he preserves the lives of his saints

and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 *Light has sprung up for the righteous, **

and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

*12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.*

Please turn to page 728 for Psalm 99.

99 *Dominus regnavit*

*1 The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.*

*2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.*

*3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.*

*4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."*

*5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.*

*6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.*

*7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.*

*8 "O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds."*

*9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.*

*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 first lesson is from Ezekiel 7:10-15,23-27

¹⁰ See, the day! See, it comes!

Your doom has gone out.

The rod has blossomed, pride has budded.

¹¹ Violence has grown into a rod of wickedness.

None of them shall remain,

not their abundance, not their wealth;

no pre-eminence among them.

¹² The time has come, the day draws near;

let not the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn,

for wrath is upon all their multitude.

¹³ For the sellers shall not return to what has been sold as long as they remain alive.

For the vision concerns all their multitude; it shall not be revoked.

Because of their iniquity, they cannot maintain their lives.

¹⁴ They have blown the horn and made everything ready;

but no one goes to battle,

for my wrath is upon all their multitude.

¹⁵ The sword is outside, pestilence and famine are inside;

those in the field die by the sword;

those in the city—famine and pestilence devour them.

²³ Make a chain!

For the land is full of bloody crimes;

the city is full of violence.

²⁴ I will bring the worst of the nations

to take possession of their houses.

I will put an end to the arrogance of the strong,

and their holy places shall be profaned.

²⁵ When anguish comes, they will seek peace,

but there shall be none.

²⁶ Disaster comes upon disaster,

rumor follows rumor;

they shall keep seeking a vision from the prophet;

instruction shall perish from the priest,

and counsel from the elders.

²⁷ The king shall mourn,

the prince shall be wrapped in despair,

and the hands of the people of the land shall tremble.

According to their way I will deal with them;

according to their own judgements I will judge them.

And they shall know that I am the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 90. We'll say **Canticle 13, A Song of Praise** together.

The second lesson is from Hebrews 6:13-20

13 When God made a promise to Abraham, because he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, ¹⁴saying, 'I will surely bless you and multiply you.' ¹⁵And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. ¹⁶Human beings, of course, swear by someone greater than themselves, and an oath given as confirmation puts an end to all dispute. ¹⁷In the same way, when God desired to show even more clearly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it by an oath, ¹⁸so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God would prove false, we who have taken refuge might be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. ¹⁹We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, ²⁰where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered, having become a high priest for ever according to the order of Melchizedek.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 93. We'll say **Canticle 18, A Song to the Lamb** together.

The third lesson is from Luke 10:1-17

10 After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" ⁶And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." ¹⁰But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹"Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near." ¹²I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town.

13 'Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴But at the judgement it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ¹⁵And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven?

No, you will be brought down to Hades.

16 'Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.'

17 The seventy returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 96. We'll say **The Apostles' Creed** together.

The Collect of the day
Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen**

Please return to the **Morning Prayer Bulletin**.

Wednesday May 19, 2021

Please turn to page 730. We'll say Psalms 101 and 109:1-4, 20-30 together.

101 *Misericordiam et iudicium*

1 *I will sing of mercy and justice; *
to you, O Lord, will I sing praises.*

2 *I will strive to follow a blameless course;
oh, when will you come to me? *
I will walk with sincerity of heart within my house.*

3 *I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; *
I hate the doers of evil deeds;
they shall not remain with me.*

4 *A crooked heart shall be far from me; *
I will not know evil.*

5 *Those who in secret slander their neighbors I will destroy; *
those who have a haughty look and a proud heart I cannot abide.*

6 *My eyes are upon the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me, *
and only those who lead a blameless life shall be my servants.*

7 *Those who act deceitfully shall not dwell in my house, *
and those who tell lies shall not continue in my sight.*

8 *I will soon destroy all the wicked in the land, *
that I may root out all evildoers from the city of the Lord.*

Please turn to page 750 for Psalm 109.

*1 Hold not your tongue, O God of my praise; *
for the mouth of the wicked,
the mouth of the deceitful, is opened against me.*

*2 They speak to me with a lying tongue; *
they encompass me with hateful words
and fight against me without a cause.*

*3 Despite my love, they accuse me; *
but as for me, I pray for them.*

*4 They repay evil for good, *
and hatred for my love.*

*20 But you, O Lord my God,
oh, deal with me according to your Name; *
for your tender mercy's sake, deliver me.*

*21 For I am poor and needy, *
and my heart is wounded within me.*

*22 I have faded away like a shadow when it lengthens; *
I am shaken off like a locust.*

*23 My knees are weak through fasting, *
and my flesh is wasted and gaunt.*

*24 I have become a reproach to them; *
they see and shake their heads.*

*25 Help me, O Lord my God; *
save me for your mercy's sake.*

*26 Let them know that this is your hand, *
that you, O Lord, have done it.*

*27 They may curse, but you will bless; *
let those who rise up against me be put to shame,
and your servant will rejoice.*

*28 Let my accusers be clothed with disgrace *
and wrap themselves in their shame as in a cloak.*

*29 I will give great thanks to the Lord with my mouth; *
in the midst of the multitude will I praise him;*

*30 Because he stands at the right hand of the needy, *
to save his life from those who would condemn him.*

*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 first lesson is from Ezekiel 11:14-25

14 Then the word of the Lord came to me: ¹⁵Mortal, your kinsfolk, your own kin, your fellow exiles, the whole house of Israel, all of them, are those of whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, ‘They have gone far from the Lord; to us this land is given for a possession.’

¹⁶Therefore say: Thus says the Lord God: Though I removed them far away among the nations, and though I scattered them among the countries, yet I have been a sanctuary to them for a little while in the countries where they have gone. ¹⁷Therefore say: Thus says the Lord God: I will gather you from the peoples, and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. ¹⁸When they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. ¹⁹I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them; I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰so that they may follow my statutes and keep my ordinances and obey them. Then they shall be my people, and I will be their God. ²¹But as for those whose heart goes after their detestable things and their abominations, I will bring their deeds upon their own heads, says the Lord God.

22 Then the cherubim lifted up their wings, with the wheels beside them; and the glory of the God of Israel was above them. ²³And the glory of the Lord ascended from the middle of the city, and stopped on the mountain east of the city. ²⁴The spirit lifted me up and brought me in a vision by the spirit of God into Chaldea, to the exiles. Then the vision that I had seen left me. ²⁵And I told the exiles all the things that the Lord had shown me.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 87. We'll say Canticle 11, The Third Song of Isaiah, together.

The second lesson is from Hebrews 7:1-17

7 This ‘King Melchizedek of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham as he was returning from defeating the kings and blessed him’; ²and to him Abraham apportioned ‘one-tenth of everything’. His name, in the first place, means ‘king of righteousness’; next he is also king of Salem, that is, ‘king of peace’. ³Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest for ever.

4 See how great he is! Even Abraham the patriarch gave him a tenth of the spoils. ⁵And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to collect tithes from the people, that is, from their kindred, though these also are descended from Abraham. ⁶But this man, who does not belong to their ancestry, collected tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had received the promises. ⁷It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. ⁸In the one case, tithes are received by those who are mortal; in the other, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. ⁹One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, ¹⁰for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

11 Now if perfection had been attainable through the levitical priesthood—for the people received the law under this priesthood—what further need would there have been to speak of another priest arising according to the order of Melchizedek, rather than one according to the order of Aaron? ¹²For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. ¹³Now the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. ¹⁴For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

15 It is even more obvious when another priest arises, resembling Melchizedek, ¹⁶one who has become a priest, not through a legal requirement concerning physical descent, but through the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷For it is attested of him, ‘You are a priest for ever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.’

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 92. We’ll say **Canticle 16, The Song of Zechariah** together.

The third lesson is from Luke 10:17-24

17 The seventy returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!' ¹⁸He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'

21 At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²²All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.'

23 Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, 'Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! ²⁴For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 96. We'll say **The Apostles' Creed** together.

The Collect of the day
Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*

Please return to the **Morning Prayer Bulletin**.

Thursday May 20, 2021

Please turn to page 738. We'll say Psalm 105:1-22 together.

105

Part I *Confitemini Domino*

*1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.*

*2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.*

*3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.*

*4 Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.*

*5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,*

*6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.*

*7 He is the Lord our God; *
his judgments prevail in all the world.*

*8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:*

*9 The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,*

*10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,*

*11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance."*

*12 When they were few in number, *
of little account, and sojourners in the land,*

*13 Wandering from nation to nation *
and from one kingdom to another,*

*14 He let no one oppress them *
and rebuked kings for their sake,*

*15 Saying, "Do not touch my anointed *
and do my prophets no harm."*

*16 Then he called for a famine in the land *
and destroyed the supply of bread.*

*17 He sent a man before them, *
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.*

*18 They bruised his feet in fetters; *
his neck they put in an iron collar.*

*19 Until his prediction came to pass, *
the word of the Lord tested him.*

*20 The king sent and released him; *
the ruler of the peoples set him free.*

*21 He set him as a master over his household, *
as a ruler over all his possessions,*

*22 To instruct his princes according to his will *
and to teach his elders wisdom.*

*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 first lesson is from Ezekiel 18:1-4,19-32

18 ¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

19 Yet you say, ‘Why should not the son suffer for the iniquity of the father?’ When the son has done what is lawful and right, and has been careful to observe all my statutes, he shall surely live. ²⁰The person who sins shall die. A child shall not suffer for the iniquity of a parent, nor a parent suffer for the iniquity of a child; the righteousness of the righteous shall be his own, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be his own.

21 But if the wicked turn away from all their sins that they have committed and keep all my statutes and do what is lawful and right, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²²None of the transgressions that they have committed shall be remembered against them; for the righteousness that they have done they shall live. ²³Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, says the Lord God, and not rather that they should turn from their ways and live? ²⁴But when the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity and do the same abominable things that the wicked do, shall they live? None of the righteous deeds that they have done shall be remembered; for the treachery of which they are guilty and the sin they have committed, they shall die.

25 Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 85. We’ll say **Canticle 8, The Song of Moses together.**

The second lesson is from Hebrews 7:18-28

¹⁸There is, on the one hand, the abrogation of an earlier commandment because it was weak and ineffectual ¹⁹(for the law made nothing perfect); there is, on the other hand, the introduction of a better hope, through which we approach God.

20 This was confirmed with an oath; for others who became priests took their office without an oath, ²¹but this one became a priest with an oath, because of the one who said to him, ‘The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, “You are a priest for ever” ’—
²²accordingly Jesus has also become the guarantee of a better covenant.

23 Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; ²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues for ever. ²⁵Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

26 For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 94. We'll say Canticle 20, Glory to God, together.

The third lesson is from Luke 10:25-37

25 Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. ‘Teacher,’ he said, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ ²⁶He said to him, ‘What is written in the law? What do you read there?’ ²⁷He answered, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.’ ²⁸And he said to him, ‘You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.’

29 But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’ ³⁰Jesus replied, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.

³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' ³⁷He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 96. We'll say **The Apostles' Creed** together.

The Collect of the day

Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*

Please return to the **Morning Prayer Bulletin**.

Friday May 21, 2021

Please turn to page 731. We'll say Psalm 102 together.

102 *Domine, exaudi*

1 *Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come before you; *
hide not your face from me in the day of my trouble.*

2 *Incline your ear to me; *
when I call, make haste to answer me,*

3 *For my days drift away like smoke, *
and my bones are hot as burning coals.*

4 *My heart is smitten like grass and withered, *
so that I forget to eat my bread.*

5 *Because of the voice of my groaning *
I am but skin and bones.*

6 *I have become like a vulture in the wilderness, *
like an owl among the ruins.*

7 *I lie awake and groan; *
I am like a sparrow, lonely on a house-top.*

8 *My enemies revile me all day long, *
and those who scoff at me have taken an oath against me.*

9 *For I have eaten ashes for bread *
and mingled my drink with weeping.*

10 *Because of your indignation and wrath *
you have lifted me up and thrown me away.*

11 *My days pass away like a shadow, *
and I wither like the grass.*

12 *But you, O Lord, endure for ever, *
and your Name from age to age.*

- 13 You will arise and have compassion on Zion,
for it is time to have mercy upon her; *
indeed, the appointed time has come.*
- 14 For your servants love her very rubble, *
and are moved to pity even for her dust.*
- 15 The nations shall fear your Name, O Lord, *
and all the kings of the earth your glory.*
- 16 For the Lord will build up Zion, *
and his glory will appear.*
- 17 He will look with favor on the prayer of the homeless; *
he will not despise their plea.*
- 18 Let this be written for a future generation, *
so that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord.*
- 19 For the Lord looked down from his holy place on high; *
from the heavens he beheld the earth;*
- 20 That he might hear the groan of the captive *
and set free those condemned to die;*
- 21 That they may declare in Zion the Name of the Lord, *
and his praise in Jerusalem;*
- 22 When the peoples are gathered together, *
and the kingdoms also, to serve the Lord.*
- 23 He has brought down my strength before my time; *
he has shortened the number of my days;*
- 24 And I said, "O my God,
do not take me away in the midst of my days; *
your years endure throughout all generations.*
- 25 In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, *
and the heavens are the work of your hands;*

***26 They shall perish, but you will endure;
they all shall wear out like a garment; *
as clothing you will change them,
and they shall be changed;***

***27 But you are always the same, *
and your years will never end.***

***28 The children of your servants shall continue, *
and their offspring shall stand fast in your sight."***

The first lesson is from Ezekiel 34:17-31

17 As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats: ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, but you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture? When you drink of clear water, must you foul the rest with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have fouled with your feet?

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

25 I will make with them a covenant of peace and banish wild animals from the land, so that they may live in the wild and sleep in the woods securely. ²⁶I will make them and the region around my hill a blessing; and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing. ²⁷The trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase. They shall be secure on their soil; and they shall know that I am the Lord, when I break the bars of their yoke, and save them from the hands of those who enslaved them. ²⁸They shall no more be plunder for the nations, nor shall the animals of the land devour them; they shall live in safety, and no one shall make them afraid. ²⁹I will provide for them splendid vegetation, so that they shall no more be consumed with hunger in the land, and no longer suffer the insults of the nations. ³⁰They shall know that I, the Lord their God, am with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, says the Lord God. ³¹You are my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, says the Lord God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 86. We'll say Canticle 10, The Second Song of Isaiah, together.

The second lesson is from Hebrews 8:1-13

8 ¹Now the main point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ²a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent that the Lord, and not any mortal, has set up. ³For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; hence it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. ⁴Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. ⁵They offer worship in a sanctuary that is a sketch and shadow of the heavenly one; for Moses, when he was about to erect the tent, was warned, 'See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.' ⁶But Jesus has now obtained a more excellent ministry, and to that degree he is the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted through better promises. ⁷For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need to look for a second one.

8 God finds fault with them when he says:

'The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah;

⁹ not like the covenant that I made with their ancestors,
on the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt;
for they did not continue in my covenant,
and so I had no concern for them, says the Lord.

¹⁰ This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel
after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their minds,
and write them on their hearts,
and I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

¹¹ And they shall not teach one another
or say to each other, "Know the Lord",
for they shall all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest.

¹² For I will be merciful towards their iniquities,
and I will remember their sins no more.'

¹³In speaking of 'a new covenant', he has made the first one obsolete. And what is obsolete and growing old will soon disappear.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 93. We'll say **Canticle 18, A Song to the Lamb** together.

The third lesson is from Luke 10:38-42

38 Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 96. We'll say **The Apostles' Creed** together.

The Collect of the day
Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*

Please return to the **Morning Prayer Bulletin**.