

# The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Cycle A – Proper 19 (Green)

## Sunday August 09, 2020

*Presider and Speaker:* the Rev. Andrew Twiddy

### *Readings*

**Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28**

**Romans 10:1,4-10 (11-15)**

**Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45c;**

**Matthew 14:22-33**

### *Music for the day:*

Hymns from *Common Praise* (1998)

<b>Opening</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven</b>	<i>(second text)</i>
<b>Reflective</b>	-	<b>Peace to the Children of Israel</b>	*
<b>At the Gospel</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult</b>	<b>– verses 1-4</b>
<b>At Prayer</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult</b>	<b>– verse 5</b>
<b>Closing</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>O God Beyond All Face and Form</b>	

### *\* lyrics :*

**Peace to the children of Israel, peace to the children of Ishmael.**

**Peace to the children of all the world, all the world shall live in peace.**

**Shalom, salaam, shalom, salaam, all the world shall live in peace.**

### *The Collect – the Prayer of the Day:*

**Ever-faithful One,  
you answer the cries of all who call upon your name.  
Give us grace to trust in you,  
so that we may walk faithfully amidst the storms of life;  
through Jesus the Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.*

A First Reading:            A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

**Some of us find ourselves surrounded with a dramatic family life, do we not?**

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.

Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me."

So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'"

So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams."

But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" - that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father.

So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt.

Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed.

When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver.

And they took Joseph to Egypt.

**Holy word, holy wisdom ~ hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches**

GENESIS 37:1-4, 12-28 ~ NRSV, alt. A. Twiddy



## **A Second Reading: FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CHRISTIANS IN ROME**

### **It's all about Trust!**

**10**<sup>1</sup> Believe me, friends, all I want for my people, the children of Israel, is what's best for Israel: healing and liberation, nothing less. I want it with all my heart and pray to God for it all the time.

**4-10** The earlier revelation and teachings were intended to get us ready for the coming of the Anointed One, who then puts everything right for those who trust that it is so.

Moses wrote that anyone who insists on using the law code to live right before God soon discovers it's not so easy—every detail of life regulated by fine print! But trusting God to shape the right living in us is a different story—no precarious climb up to heaven to recruit the Messiah, no dangerous descent into hell to rescue the Messiah. So what exactly was Moses saying? Have you heard the quote:

“The word that saves is right here,  
as near as the tongue in your mouth,  
as close as the heart in your chest.”

That's what I mean. It's the word of faith that welcomes God to go to work and set things right for us.

This is the core of our preaching. Just say the welcoming word to God—“Jesus is my Master”—embracing, body and soul. You find that God is doing in us what God did in raising Jesus from the dead. That's it.

You're not “doing” anything; you're simply calling out to God, and trusting. You trust God to do it *for* you. That's salvation. With your whole being you embrace God setting things right, and then you say it, right out loud: “God has restored everything!”

**Holy word, holy wisdom ~ hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches**

## **The Gospel Reading:**

### ***THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW***

Immediately after the crowds had been fed, and the leftovers had been gathered, Jesus directed the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone.

Meanwhile, the boat was far from the land, and was being battered by the waves, for the wind was coming against it.

Very late in the night, just before dawn, Jesus came toward them ~ walking on the lake!

But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they were so afraid that they screamed.

Right away, Jesus spoke to them: "It's okay! It's *me*! No need to give in to your fears."

Peter answered him, "Teacher, if it is you, just say the word, and tell me to come to you on the water." Jesus said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he screamed out, "Help! Teacher, save me!"

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him. He said to him, "I know your level of trust is very low. I wonder, what is it that leads you to be in two minds?"

When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Amazing. You really are God's Special One!"

**...Holy Word, Holy Wisdom: The Gospel of Christ. ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

# *A Way for Each Day ~ The Prayer Jesus Gave Us*

*~ A Salish Sea Version of The Lord's Prayer ~*

**Our Beloved,**

**Your compassionate essence is unique,  
and we want it to pervade the whole universe.**

**Restore everything in the world,  
to be in harmony, on the outside, and on the inside.**

**Provide us with what we really need now,  
for today, and for each day.**

**Release us from the harm we have done,  
and help us, in our journey of recovery,  
to release those who have harmed us.**

**Keep us safe during our times of distress,  
and liberate us from oppression.**

**For your whole purpose, strength, and glory,  
is to restore everything and everyone.**

**We are depending on this. We are committed to this.**

*The Process*, version 1.1, Andrew Twiddy, May 2020.

This version of the prayer Jesus gave us, traditionally known as the Lord's Prayer, is similar in intention to the meditations and prayers found in the *Supplement to the Book of Alternative Services* (the grey booklet) of the Anglican Church of Canada, page 81.

To help those who may wish to cross barriers of language and culture to find a new expression for this prayer, this translation, *The Process*, operates on the principle of dynamic-equivalence, based on a search for an intersection point between an evolving world of diversity and a sympathetic reading of ancient Middle Eastern texts and context, Semitic thought forms, and the Greek text of early Christian documents, as found in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 6, and the Gospel of Luke, chapter 11.

*The Process*, version 1.1, an evolving process of hearing and receiving historic texts of Scripture, from the islands and inlets of the Salish Sea on the West Coast of Canada, Andrew Twiddy, May 2020.

## **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost [Proper 19] (Green)**

**Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### **Readings**

GENESIS 37:1-4, 12-28; PSALM 105:1-6, 16-22, 45C; ROMANS 10:5-15; MATTHEW 14:22-33

### **Collect**

Almighty God,  
you sent your Holy Spirit  
to be the life and light of your Church.  
Open our hearts to the riches of your grace,  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love, joy, and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

Additional Collects:

I  
Through the storms of life, O God,  
you walk with your people in the person of Jesus your Son.  
Calm our fears and strengthen our faith,  
so that we may never doubt his presence among us  
but proclaim that he is your Son, risen from the dead,  
living forever. Amen.

Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.

II  
Ever-faithful One,  
you answer the cries of all who call upon your name.  
Give us grace to trust in you,  
so that we may walk faithfully amidst the storms of life;  
through Jesus the Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

FWM Proposed Prayers alt.

### **First Reading**

#### **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS**

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and

with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" - that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

GENESIS 37:1-4, 12-28

## **Psalm**

PSALM

REFRAIN The Lord has always been mindful of his covenant.

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

Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvellous works. R

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

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

Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,

O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen. R

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hallelujah! R  
PSALM 105:1-6, 16-22, 45C

## **Second Reading**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"  
ROMANS 10:5-15

## **Gospel**

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."  
MATTHEW 14:22-33

**The Epistle reading, from *The Message*,**

### ***Romans Chapter 10.1,4-17***

**10** <sup>1-3</sup> Believe me, friends, all I want for Israel is what's best for Israel: salvation, nothing less. I want it with all my heart and pray to God for it all the time. I readily admit that the Jews are impressively energetic regarding God—but they are doing everything exactly backward. They don't seem to realize that this comprehensive setting-things-right that is salvation is *God's* business, and a most flourishing business it is.

Right across the street they set up their own salvation shops and noisily hawk their wares. After all these years of refusing to really deal with God on his terms, insisting instead on making their own deals, they have nothing to show for it.

<sup>4-10</sup> The earlier revelation was intended simply to get us ready for the Messiah, who then puts everything right for those who trust him to do it. Moses wrote that anyone who insists on using the law code to live right before God soon discovers it's not so easy—every detail of life regulated by fine print! But trusting God to shape the right living in us is a different story—no precarious climb up to heaven to recruit the Messiah, no dangerous descent into hell to rescue the Messiah. So what exactly was Moses saying?

The word that saves is right here,  
as near as the tongue in your mouth,  
as close as the heart in your chest.

It's the word of faith that welcomes God to go to work and set things right for us. This is the core of our preaching. Say the welcoming word to God—"Jesus is my Master"—embracing, body and soul, God's work of doing in us what he did in raising Jesus from the dead. That's it. You're not "doing" anything; you're simply calling out to God, trusting him to do it for you. That's salvation. With your whole being you embrace God setting things right, and then you say it, right out loud: "God has set everything right between him and me!"

<sup>11-13</sup> Scripture reassures us, "No one who trusts God like this—heart and soul—will ever regret it." It's exactly the same no matter what a person's religious background may be: the same God for all of us, acting the same incredibly generous way to everyone who calls out for help. "Everyone who calls, 'Help, God!' gets help."

<sup>14-17</sup> But how can people call for help if they don't know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven't heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them? And how is anyone going to tell them, unless someone is sent to do it? That's why Scripture exclaims,

A sight to take your breath away!  
Grand processions of people  
telling all the good things of God!

But not everybody is ready for this, ready to see and hear and act. Isaiah asked what we all ask at one time or another: "Does anyone care, God? Is anyone listening and believing a word of it?" The point is: Before you trust, you have to listen. But unless Christ's Word is preached, there's nothing to listen to.