

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Cycle A – Proper 18 (Green)

Sunday August 02, 2020

Presider and Speaker: the Rev. Andrew Twiddy

Readings

Genesis 32.22-31

Romans 9.1-5

Psalm 17.1-7, 16

Matthew 14.13-21

Music for the day:

Hymns from *Common Praise* (1998)

Opening	442	Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here
Reflective	-	Peace to the Children of Israel *
At the Gospel	584	The Church of Christ in Every Age – verses 1-3
At Prayer	584	The Church of Christ in Every Age – verses 4-5
Closing	565	Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

** 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:

**God beyond all seeing and knowing,
we meet you in the night of change and crisis,
and wrestle with you in darkness and doubt.
Give us the will and spirit to live faithfully
and to love as we are loved,
through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.**

Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.

A First Reading: A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

Jacob's Struggle During the Night

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.

He took them, and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.

Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed."

Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him.

So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."

The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

GENESIS 32:22-31 ~ NRSV, alt. A. Twiddy

The Psalm

We Are Satisfied in our Likeness to the Divine

REFRAIN *Show me your marvellous loving-kindness,
O Saviour, of those who take refuge at your right hand.*

Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord; give heed to my cry; *
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.

Let my vindication come forth from your presence;
let your eyes be fixed on justice. R

Weigh my heart, summon me by night, melt me down;
you will find no impurity in me.

I give no offence with my mouth as others do;
I have heeded the words of your lips. R

My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law;
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.

I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;
incline your ear to me and hear my words. R

Show me your marvellous loving-kindness,
O Saviour of those who take refuge at your right hand
from those who rise up against them.

But at my vindication I shall see your face;
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness. R

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

Can anything come between us and God?

I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely *nothing* can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Teacher has embraced us.

9¹⁻⁵ At the same time, you need to know that I carry with me at all times a huge sorrow. It's an enormous pain deep within me, and I'm never free of it. I'm not exaggerating—Christ and the Holy Spirit are my witnesses.

It's my own people, the children of Israel . . . If there were any way I could be cursed by the Messiah so the rest of my people could be blessed by him, I'd do it in a minute.

They're my family. I grew up with them. We had everything going for us—family, glory, covenants, revelation, worship, promises, to say nothing of being the race that produced the Messiah, the Christ. Blessed be God, who is over everything, always. Oh, yes!

Romans 8:38-9.5, *The Message*, alt. A. Twiddy

The Gospel Reading:

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

Now when Jesus heard about the violent death of John the Baptizer, he withdrew by boat to a deserted place by himself.

But when the crowds heard what Jesus had done, they followed him on foot from the nearby towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured those who were ill.

When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me."

Then he directed the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.

There were over five thousand people who were fed.

...The Gospel of Christ. ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 14: 13-21. NRSV, alt. A. Twiddy

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.