

The Reign of Christ, Cycle A – Proper 33 (Green)

Sunday November 22, 2020

Presiders: the Rev. Andrew Twiddy, the Rev. Christine Muise
Youth Team: Juliette Desvaux, Allison Poole, Evan Matzanke, Luke Desvaux

Readings

EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24; PSALM 100; EPHESIANS 1:15-23; MATTHEW 25:31-46

Music for the day:

Hymns from *Common Praise* (1998) or the local parish booklet *Open Wide the Church's Door*

Opening	CP 630	You Lord Are Both Lamb and Shepherd (<i>verses 1,2,3</i>)
Reflective	CP 519	The Lord's My Shepherd (<i>verses 1,3,5</i>)
Gospel	<i>Open Wide</i> 14	Take My Gifts (<i>solo: verses 1,2 ~ Allison Poole</i>)
Offertory	<i>Open Wide</i> 14	Take My Gifts (<i>group: verse 3</i>)
Closing	CP 378	Crown Him With Many Crowns (<i>verses 1,3,4</i>)

click here on our website → for [Music & Lyrics for Open Wide the Church's Door](#)

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The Collect – the Prayer of the Day:

**Destitute king,
one with the hungry, the naked, and the scorned:
may our faith be proved, beyond our words and our worship,
in serving you in the last, the lost, and the least;
through Jesus Christ, the voice of the stranger. Amen.**

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.

Prayer over the Gifts

Eternal God,
by your grace you have raised us up
and enthroned us with Christ in the heavenly realms.
Receive all we offer you this day,
and lead us in those good works
for which you have created us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

A First Reading: A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Reader: Search and Rescue. A reading from the Book of Ezekiel.

For thus says the Holy One: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land.

I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will send to be butchered. I will provide pasture in a fair way.

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

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

EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24 ~ NRSV, alt. A. Twiddy

The Psalm

VERSE OF THE DAY: We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture

- 1 Be joyful in the Holy One, all you lands; *
 serve the Holy One with gladness,
 and come before God's presence with a song.
- 2 Know this: The Holy One is God; the Holy One made us, and we belong to God; *
 we are God's people, and the sheep of God' pasture.
- 3 Enter the gates with thanksgiving; go into the temple courts with praise; *
 give thanks to the Holy One, and call upon God's name.
- 4 For the Holy One is good; God's compassion is everlasting; *
 God's faithfulness endures from age to age.

A Second Reading: FROM THE LETTER TO THE CHRISTIANS IN EPHESUS

Reader: “Why is that some people can live with endless energy ?” A reading from the letter to the Christian community in Ephesus (...pause)

(1.15-19)

When I heard of the solid trust you have in Jesus, and your outpouring of love to all the followers of Jesus, I couldn't stop thanking God for you. Every time I prayed, I'd think of you and give thanks.

But I do more than thank. I ask—ask the God of our Jesus, the Anointed One, our Teacher —to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing God personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is God is calling you to do, and to grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life we have as followers of the Way.

Ah, the utter extravagance of God's work in us as we reach out in trust — endless energy, boundless strength!

(20-23)

And all of this energy issues from Christ:

For God raised Christ from death, and set Christ on a throne, in deep heaven, in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from this rule.

And not just for the time being, but *forever*. The Anointed One is in charge of it all, has the final word on everything.

At the center of all this, the Anointed One rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which God speaks and acts, by which God fills everything with pure divine presence.

(...pause)

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

EPHESIANS 1:15-23, The Message, alt. A. Twiddy

The Gospel Reading:

Reader: Where do we see God, and how do we serve God ?
The holy gospel, according to Matthew.

(All: Glory to you, Jesus, the Anointed One)

Jesus said, "When the Human One comes in glory, and all the angels too, then he will sit on the throne of glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom: The Gospel of Christ. (... All: Praise to you, Jesus the Anointed One)

Matthew 25:14-30 NRSV, alt. A. Twiddy

The Simplicity Prayer

*The Prayer Jesus Gave Us,
in the tradition and simplicity of Clare and Francis of Assisi*

~ A Franciscan Lord's Prayer ~

Our Beloved,

Your energy is compassionate and unique.

We want everyone to be aware of this.

We want everything to share in this.

Restore all things,

to be in harmony, on the outside, and on the inside.

Give us what we really need now,

for today, and for each day.

Free 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 release us from oppression.

For your purpose, your strength, and your glory,

is to bring together everyone and everything.

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

An Invitation to Weekly & Daily Prayer

*in our cycle of prayer this day and throughout this week, we give thanks and we pray together
for the well-being of the world, the church, and those in special need*

We give thank and we pray for peace, justice, and well-being throughout the world:

- giving thanks for all whose lives of service promote the common good
- honouring First Nations on whose traditional territories we live and work
- asking that we may grow in our resolve to respond to climate crisis, and to care for our planet
- seeking a spirit of reconciliation & collaboration among nations, faiths, & cultures
- and remembering our governmental leaders and elected representatives,
in the municipal, provincial, federal, and international work they undertake

God of love and compassion hear our prayer

We give thanks and we pray for the mission and ministry of our wider family in faith:

- for ecumenical and interspiritual co-operation, and for all our neighbouring churches
- for our partnership in the Anglican communion throughout the world:
for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; for Linda our Primate; for Melissa our Metropolitan;
and for all with whom they work and serve
- for Mark our National Aboriginal Archbishop, for our journey in faith and solidarity with the
Council of the North, and for the work of all our Indigenous Anglican communities

God of love and compassion hear our prayer

We give thanks and we pray for the mission and ministry of our own parish and diocesan family, remembering especially:

- all our members, associates, and friends who share in our ministry
- for the ministry of all our parish groups, networks, partners & organizations
- for all parishes of our diocese, especially remembering ...
- for Anna our Bishop-elect, for Ansley our diocesan administrator, for our priests Andrew & Christine, in
ministry among & beyond us;

God of love and compassion hear our prayer

We give thanks and we pray for those who express care and compassion,

- for those working on the frontlines of care and service in a time of global pandemic, for leaders in public
health care, and for research workers and those who work behind the scenes to bring relief, hope, and healing
- for the work of the Primate's World Relief & Development Fund and its global partners, for the Canadian
Food Grains Bank and those responding to global hunger, drought, floods, fires, migration, and displacement
- remembering those who reach out to the needy and to vulnerable populations in our local community, & those
who nurture all the circles of our citizenship, both nationally and around the world
- for the work of OHEARTS and other local agencies in serving and advocating for those on the margins, and
for those who face issues of homelessness, addiction, and mental health

God of love and compassion hear our prayer

As we stand in solidarity alongside all those in need, we pray:

- for those in trouble, sorrow, conflict, sickness, or any other adversity ...
- and in silence or aloud, we remember the special needs of those requesting our prayers ...

God of love and compassion hear our prayer



Comparative information from the official readings listed on Anglican.ca

Last Sunday after Pentecost: The Reign of Christ [Proper 34] (White)

Sunday, November 22nd, 2020

Readings

EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24; PSALM 100; EPHESIANS 1:15-23; MATTHEW 25:31-46

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
whose will it is to restore all things
win your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King,
grant that the peoples of the earth,
now divided and enslaved by sin,
may be freed and brought together
under his gentle and loving rule;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm

REFRAIN We are God's people, the sheep of his pasture.

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. R

Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. R

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; give thanks to him and call upon his name. R

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age. R
PSALM 100

Second Reading

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

Gospel

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

MATTHEW 25:31-46

Prayer over the Gifts

Eternal God,
by your grace you have raised us up
and enthroned us with Christ in the heavenly realms.
Receive all we offer you this day,

and lead us in those good works
for which you have created us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Prayer After Communion

Almighty God,
you have made us a royal priesthood
in the kingdom of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Make known his victory through us, we pray,
that all the world may see his light.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

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I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; ~~and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.~~

I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; ~~there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.~~

~~I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Holy One of all being.~~ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy.

~~I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Holy One of all being to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your~~

~~horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.~~

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

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From the Message (adjusted): (Ephesians 1)

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(...pause)

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