

Monday 16th May

Psalm 145

I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

² Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.

³ Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

**⁴ One generation commends your works to another;
they tell of your mighty acts.**

⁵ They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty –
and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

**⁶ They tell of the power of your awesome works –
and I will proclaim your great deeds.**

⁷ They celebrate your abundant goodness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

⁸ The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

⁹ The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

¹⁰ All your works praise you, LORD; your faithful people extol you.

¹¹ They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,

**¹² so that all people may know of your mighty acts
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.**

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through
all generations. The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises
and faithful in all he does.

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.

¹⁶ You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.

¹⁸ The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

¹⁹ He fulfils the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

**²⁰ The LORD watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.**

²¹ My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his
holy name for ever and ever.

Luke 4; 38-end

³⁸ Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's
mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her.

³⁹ So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once
and began to wait on them.

⁴⁰ At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of illness, and
laying his hands on each one, he healed them. ⁴¹ Moreover, demons came out of

many people, shouting, 'You are the Son of God!' But he rebuked them and
would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Messiah.

⁴² At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for
him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving
them. ⁴³ But he said, 'I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to
the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.' ⁴⁴ And he kept on
preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

Tuesday 17th May

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

**² Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.**

³ They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.

**⁴ Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the
world. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

⁵ It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

**⁶ It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.**

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

⁹ The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring for ever. The decrees of the LORD are
firm, and all of them are righteous.

**¹⁰ They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.**

¹¹ By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults.

¹³ Keep your servant also from wilful sins; may they not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

**¹⁴ May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

Luke 5;1-11

1 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret,^[a] the people were crowding round him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.'

⁵ Simon answered, 'Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.'

⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!' ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.' ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Wednesday 18th May

Psalm 30

I will exalt you, LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

² **LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.**

³ You, LORD, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
you spared me from going down to the pit.

⁴ **Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.**

⁵ For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favour lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

⁶ **When I felt secure, I said, 'I shall never be shaken.'**

⁷ LORD, when you favoured me, you made my royal mountain stand firm;
but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.

⁸ **To you, LORD, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy:**

⁹ 'What is gained if I am silenced, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness?

¹⁰ **Hear, LORD, and be merciful to me; LORD, be my help.'**

¹¹ You turned my wailing into dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

¹² **that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.**

LORD my God, I will praise you for ever.

Luke 5;12-26

¹² While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy.^[b] When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, 'Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.'

¹³ Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' And immediately the leprosy left him.

¹⁴ Then Jesus ordered him, 'Don't tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.'

¹⁵ Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their illnesses. ¹⁶ But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Jesus forgives and heals a paralysed man

¹⁷ One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal those who were ill.

¹⁸ Some men came carrying a paralysed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. ¹⁹ When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

²⁰ When Jesus saw their faith, he said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven.'

²¹ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, 'Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?'

²² Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, 'Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? ²³ Which is easier: to say, "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Get up and walk"? ²⁴ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.' So he said to the paralysed man, 'I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.' ²⁵ Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. ²⁶ Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, 'We have seen remarkable things today.'

Thursday 19th May

Psalm 57

Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge.

I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.

² I cry out to God Most High, to God, who vindicates me.

³ He sends from heaven and saves me, rebuking those who hotly pursue me –
God sends forth his love and his faithfulness.

**⁴ I am in the midst of lions; I am forced to dwell among ravenous beasts –
men whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords.**

⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

⁶ They spread a net for my feet – I was bowed down in distress.

They dug a pit in my path –but they have fallen into it themselves.

⁷ My heart, O God, is steadfast, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music.

⁸ Awake, my soul! awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.

⁹ I will praise you, Lord, among the nations;

I will sing of you among the peoples.

**¹⁰ For great is your love, reaching to the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.**

¹¹ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

Luke 5;27-end

Jesus calls Levi and eats with sinners

²⁷ After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. ‘Follow me,’ Jesus said to him, ²⁸ and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.

²⁹ Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. ³⁰ But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, ‘Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?’

³¹ Jesus answered them, ‘It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but those who are ill. ³² I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.’

Jesus questioned about fasting

³³ They said to him, ‘John’s disciples often fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking.’

³⁴ Jesus answered, ‘Can you make the friends of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? ³⁵ But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; in those days they will fast.’

³⁶ He told them this parable: ‘No one tears a piece out of a new garment to patch an old one. Otherwise, they will have torn the new garment, and the patch from the new will not match the old. ³⁷ And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins; the wine will run out

and the wineskins will be ruined. ³⁸ No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. ³⁹ And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for they say, “The old is better.”’

Friday 20th May

Psalm 138

I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart;

before the ‘gods’ I will sing your praise.

**² I will bow down towards your holy temple and will praise your name
for your unfailing love and your faithfulness, for you have so exalted your
solemn decree that it surpasses your fame.**

³ When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.

**⁴ May all the kings of the earth praise you, LORD,
when they hear what you have decreed.**

⁵ May they sing of the ways of the LORD, for the glory of the LORD is great.

**⁶ Though the LORD is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;
though lofty, he sees them from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life. You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with your right hand you save me.

**⁸ The LORD will vindicate me; your love, LORD, endures for ever –
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

Luke 6;1-11

⁶ One Sabbath Jesus was going through the cornfields, and his disciples began to pick some ears of corn, rub them in their hands and eat the grain. ² Some of the Pharisees asked, ‘Why are you doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?’

³ Jesus answered them, ‘Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? ⁴ He entered the house of God, and taking the consecrated bread, he ate what is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.’ ⁵ Then Jesus said to them, ‘The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.’ ⁶ On another Sabbath he went into the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was shrivelled. ⁷ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. ⁸ But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said to the man with the shrivelled hand, ‘Get up and stand in front of everyone.’ So he got up and stood there. ⁹ Then Jesus said to them, ‘I ask you, which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?’ ¹⁰ He looked round at them all, and then said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ He did so, and his hand was completely restored. ¹¹ But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were furious and began to discuss with one another what they might do to Jesus.

Saturday 21st May

Psalm 146

Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, my soul.

² I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

³ Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

⁴ When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.

⁵ Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God.

⁶ He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them –
he remains faithful for ever.

⁷ He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets prisoners free,

⁸ the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts up those who are bowed
down, the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹ The LORD watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the
widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

¹⁰ The LORD reigns for ever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD.

Luke 6;12-26

¹² One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the
night praying to God. ¹³ When morning came, he called his disciples to him and
chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles: ¹⁴ Simon (whom he
named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew,

¹⁵ Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot,

¹⁶ Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Blessings and woes

¹⁷ He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his
disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from
Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸ who had come
to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits
were cured, ¹⁹ and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming
from him and healing them all.

²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

²² Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

²³ ‘Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven.
For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴ ‘But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received your comfort.

²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.