Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

27 October 2024

Sentence

The redeemed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads. Isaiah 51.11

Collect

O God,

you give light to the blind and comfort to the sorrowing, and in your Son you have given us a High Priest who has offered the true sacrifice for us and yet can sympathise with us in our weakness: hear the cry of your people and lead us home to our true country, where with your Son and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

1st Reading

Job 42.1-6, 42.10-17

¹ Then Job answered the Lord :

² 'I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

³ "Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?"

Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,

things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

4 "Hear, and I will speak;

I will question you, and you declare to me."

- I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;
- therefore I despise myself,

and repent in dust and ashes.'

¹⁰ And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.

¹¹ Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring.

¹² The Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys.

¹³ He also had seven sons and three daughters.

¹⁴ He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch.

¹⁵ In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers.

¹⁶ After this Job lived for one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations.

17 And Job died, old and full of days.

Psalm

Psalm 34.1-8

¹ I will bless the Lord continually:

his praise shall be always in my mouth.

² Let my soul boast of the Lord:

the humble shall hear it and rejoice.

³ O praise the Lord with me:

let us exalt his name together.

- 4 For I sought the Lord's help and he answered: and he freed me from all my fears.
- ⁵ Look towards him and be bright with joy: your faces shall not be ashamed.
- ⁶ Here is a wretch who cried, and the Lord heard me: and saved me from all my troubles.
- The angel of the Lord encamps round those who fear him: and delivers them in their need.
- 8 O taste and see that the Lord is good: happy are they that hide in him!

2nd Reading

Hebrews 5:1-10

1 Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

2 He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness.

3 This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people.

4 And no one takes this honor on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was.

5 In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father."

6 And he says in another place, "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

7 During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

8 Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered
9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

10 and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel

Mark 10.46-52

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' ⁵² Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.