

March 21st 2020 – third week in lent

Prayer

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you;
All things pass: God never changes.
Patience achieves all it strives for.
Whoever has God lacks nothing,
God alone suffices.

(Found on a bookmark in a prayer book belonging to St. Teresa of Avila)

Lectionary Reading

1 Corinthians 11:17-22

The Lord's Supper

(Mt 26.26–29; Mk 14.22–25; Lk 22.14–20)

¹⁷ In the following instructions, however, I do not praise you, because your meetings for worship actually do more harm than good. ¹⁸ In the first place, I have been told that there are opposing groups in your meetings; and this I believe is partly true. ¹⁹ (No doubt there must be divisions among you so that the ones who are in the right may be clearly seen.) ²⁰ When you meet together as a group, it is not the Lord's Supper that you eat. ²¹ For as you eat, you each go ahead with your own meal, so that some are hungry while others get drunk. ²² Haven't you got your own homes in which to eat and drink? Or would you rather despise the church of God and put to shame the people who are in need? What do you expect me to say to you about this? Shall I praise you? Of course I don't!

Singing the Faith 588

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| 1 | I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me. | 2 | I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread. |
| 3 | As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends. | 4 | The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here. |
| 5 | Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one. | | |

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

Psalm 21: 1-7

Praise for Victory

- 1 The king is glad, O LORD, because you gave him strength;
he rejoices because you made him victorious.
- 2 You have given him his heart's desire;
you have answered his request.
- 3 You came to him with great blessings
and set a crown of gold on his head.
- 4 He asked for life, and you gave it,
a long and lasting life.
- 5 His glory is great because of your help;
you have given him fame and majesty.
- 6 Your blessings are with him for ever
and your presence fills him with joy.
- 7 The king trusts in the LORD Almighty;
and because of the LORD's constant love
he will always be secure.

Prayer of the Day

O Holy Spirit, breath of all creatures, purifier of all souls and healer of all wounds; be fire to our heart, light to our path and friend for our journey. **Amen**

Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

Lord Jesus, in you we find the good news of the gospel:

Renew us through our worship of you,
Enable us to find our place in your kingdom,
Send us out as your servants,
Put us in the right place to share the good news,
Open our hearts and those of others to hear your words,
Never let us cease to proclaim your name, and
Deepen our discipleship as we continue to serve you.

In each and every way may our lives respond to you. **Amen**

Paul Davis, Lancashire District Chair