

June 9th 2020

Prayer

God of peace, breathe on this fractured world and heal the divisions that grow daily wider. Breathe on leaders, that they might respect the right of all human beings to live in peace. Breathe on those who hate, opening the hand clenched in a fist that it might embrace. Breathe on the influential, that their power might be used for the common good of all. Breathe on the individual, and bring freedom from conflict, and a life that's free from fear. God of peace, breathe on this fractured world.

John Birch, local preacher, South West Wales Circuit

Lectionary Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

One day while Moses was taking care of the sheep and goats of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian, he led the flock across the desert and came to Sinai, the holy mountain. ² There the angel of the Lord appeared to him as a flame coming from the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was on fire but that it was not burning up. ³ "This is strange," he thought. "Why isn't the bush burning up? I will go closer and see."

⁴ When the Lord saw that Moses was coming closer, he called to him from the middle of the bush and said, "Moses! Moses!"

He answered, "Yes, here I am."

⁵ God said, "Do not come any closer. Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground. ⁶ I am the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." So Moses covered his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the Lord said, "I have seen how cruelly my people are being treated in Egypt; I have heard them cry out to be rescued from their slave drivers. I know all about their sufferings' ⁸ and so I have come down to rescue them from the Egyptians and to bring them out of Egypt to a spacious land, one which is rich and fertile and in which the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites now live. ⁹ I have indeed heard the cry of my people, and I see how the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰ Now I am sending you to the king of Egypt so that you can lead my people out of his country."

¹¹ But Moses said to God, "I am nobody. How can I go to the king and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

¹² God answered, "I will be with you, and when you bring the people out of Egypt, you will worship me on this mountain. That will be the proof that I have sent you."

¹³ But Moses replied, "When I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors sent me to you,' they will ask me, 'What is his name?' So what can I tell them?"

¹⁴ God said, "I am who I am. You must tell them: 'The one who is called I Am[a] has sent me to you.' ¹⁵ Tell the Israelites that I, the Lord, the God of their ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, have sent you to them. This is my name forever; this is what all future generations are to call me.

Hymn 14 StF

- 1 Sing to him in whom creation
found its shape and origin ;
Spirit, moving on the waters
troubled by the God within ;
source of breath to all things
breathing,
life in whom all lives begin.
- 2 Sing to God, the close companion
of our inmost thoughts and ways ;
who, in showing us his wonders,
is himself the power to gaze,
and his will, to those who listen,
by a still small voice conveys.
- 3 Holy people, priests and prophets
caught his accents, spoke his word ;
his the truth behind the wisdoms
which as yet know not our Lord ;
he the love of God eternal,
which in Christ was seen and heard.
- 4 Tell of how the ascended Jesus
armed a people for his own ;
how a hundred men and women
turned the known world upside
down,
to its dark and farthest corners
by the wind of Whitsun blown.
- 5 Pray we, then, O Lord the Spirit,
on our lives descend in might ;
let your flame break out within us,
fire our hearts and clear our sight,
till, white-hot in your possession,
we, too, set the world alight.
- 6 Praise, O praise the Holy Spirit,
praise the Father, praise the Word,
source, and truth, and inspiration,
Trinity in deep accord ;
through your voice which speaks
within us
we your creatures own you Lord.

Michael Hewlett (1916–2000)

Psalm 29

- ¹ Praise the Lord, you heavenly beings;
praise his glory and power.
- ² Praise the Lord's glorious name;
bow down before the Holy One when he appears.[b]
- ³ The voice of the Lord is heard on the seas;
the glorious God thunders,
and his voice echoes over the ocean.
- ⁴ The voice of the Lord is heard
in all its might and majesty.
- ⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars,
even the cedars of Lebanon.
- ⁶ He makes the mountains of Lebanon jump like calves
and makes Mount Hermon leap like a young bull.
- ⁷ The voice of the Lord makes the lightning flash.
- ⁸ His voice makes the desert shake;
he shakes the desert of Kadesh.
- ⁹ The Lord's voice shakes the oaks[c]
and strips the leaves from the trees
while everyone in his Temple shouts, "Glory to God!"
- ¹⁰ The Lord rules over the deep waters;
he rules as king forever.
- ¹¹ The Lord gives strength to his people
and blesses them with peace.

Good News Translation

Prayer of the Day

Jesus, by your wounded feet, direct our path. Jesus, by your nailed hands, move us to deeds of love. Jesus, by your pierced side, purify our desires. Jesus by your broken heart, knit ours to yours. Amen.

Richard Crashaw (1613-1649)