

A Celebration for the Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sentence

You, O Lord, are my hope, my trust from my youth. Upon you have I leaned since my birth.

(Psalm 71.5 6)

Opening Prayer or Collect

O God, the Judge of all, through the saving blood of your Son you have brought us to the heavenly Jerusalem and given us a kingdom which cannot be shaken:

fill us with reverence and awe in your presence, that in thanksgiving we and all your Church may offer you acceptable worship; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives to intercede for us, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Readings for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Old Testament: Jeremiah 1:4-10

A Reading from the prophet Jeremiah, Chapter 1 beginning at verse 4

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,

and before you were born I consecrated you;

I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'

Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.' But the Lord said to me,

'Do not say, "I am only a boy";

for you shall go to all to whom I send you,

and you shall speak whatever I command you.

Do not be afraid of them,

for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.'

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth;

and the Lord said to me,

'Now I have put my words in your mouth.

See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,

to pluck up and to pull down,

to destroy and to overthrow,

to build and to plant.'

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 71:1-6 APBA p 293

- To you, Lord, have I come for shelter: let me never be put to shame.
- 2 In your righteousness rescue and deliver me: incline your ear to me and save me.
- 3 Be for me a rock of refuge, a fortress to defend me: for you are my high rock, and my stronghold.
- Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked: from the grasp of the pitiless and unjust.
- For you, Lord, are my hope: you are my confidence, O God, from my youth upward.
- On you have I leaned since my birth: you are he that brought me out of my mother's womb, and my praise is of you continually.

New Testament: Hebrews 12:18-29

A Reading from Hebrews, Chapter 12 beginning at verse 18

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.' This phrase 'Yet once more' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

A Reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, Chapter 13, beginning at verse 10 Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on her,

immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ