

**17 October 2021**

**Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**

**The Collect**

God, the giver of life,  
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church:  
by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ  
and make us eager to do your will,  
that we may share with the whole creation  
the joys of eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**First Reading**

*Job 38.1-7(34-41)*

The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:  
'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without  
knowledge?  
Gird up your loins like a man,  
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.  
'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the  
earth?  
Tell me, if you have understanding.  
Who determined its measurements – surely you know!  
Or who stretched the line upon it?  
On what were its bases sunk,  
or who laid its cornerstone  
when the morning stars sang together  
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

'Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,  
so that a flood of waters may cover you?  
Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go  
and say to you, "Here we are"?  
Who has put wisdom in the inward parts,  
or given understanding to the mind?  
Who has the wisdom to number the clouds?  
Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,  
when the dust runs into a mass  
and the clods cling together?

'Can you hunt the prey for the lion,  
or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,  
when they crouch in their dens,  
or lie in wait in their covert?  
Who provides for the raven its prey,  
when its young ones cry to God,  
and wander about for lack of food?

**Psalm 104.1-10,24,35c**

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul. ♦  
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!

2 You are clothed with majesty and honour, ♦  
wrapped in light as in a garment.

3 You spread out the heavens like a curtain ♦  
and lay the beams of your dwelling place in the waters above.

4 You make the clouds your chariot ♦  
and ride on the wings of the wind.

5 You make the winds your messengers ♦  
and flames of fire your servants.

6 You laid the foundations of the earth, ♦  
that it never should move at any time.

7 You covered it with the deep like a garment; ♦  
the waters stood high above the hills.

8 At your rebuke they fled; ♦  
at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.

9 They rose up to the hills and flowed down to the  
valleys beneath, ♦  
to the place which you had appointed for them.

10 You have set them their bounds that they should not  
pass, ♦  
nor turn again to cover the earth.

24 The sun rises and they are gone ♦  
to lay themselves down in their dens.

35 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; ♦  
I will make music to my God while I have my being.

## Second Reading

*Hebrews 5.1-10*

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

‘You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you’;  
as he says also in another place,  
‘You are a priest for ever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.’  
In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

## Gospel

*Mark 10.35-45*

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, ‘Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.’ And he said to them, ‘What is it you want me to do for you?’ And they said to him, ‘Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.’<sup>8</sup> But Jesus said to them, ‘You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?’ They replied, ‘We are able.’ Then Jesus said to them, ‘The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.’ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, ‘You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to

become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'