

Hymns & Readings for Sunday 13th September 2020 Second Sunday in the Season of Creation (Trinity 14)

Hymn 105: Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,

till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiance divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Reading: Job 38:1-18

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

² 'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³ Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴ 'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶ On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone ⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

⁸ 'Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?—

⁹ when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰ and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors,

¹¹ and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped?"

¹² 'Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place,

¹³ so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it?

¹⁴ It is changed like clay under the seal, and it is dyed like a garment.

¹⁵ Light is withheld from the wicked, and their uplifted arm is broken.

¹⁶ 'Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep?

¹⁷ Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

¹⁸ Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.

Reading: Romans 1:18-25 (NRSV)

¹⁸ The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of those who by their wickedness suppress the truth. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse; ²¹ for though they knew God, they did not honour him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless minds were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools; ²³ and they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human being or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles.

²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the degrading of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever! Amen.

Hymn 320: How shall I sing that majesty

How shall I sing that Majesty
which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie;
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.

Thousands of thousands stand around
thy throne, O God most high;
ten thousand times ten thousand sound
thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,
whilst I thy footsteps trace;
a sound of God comes to my ears;
but they behold thy face:
they sing because thou art their Sun:
Lord, send a beam on me;
for where heaven is but once begun,
there alleluias be.

How great a being Lord, is thine,
which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep:
thou art a sea without a shore,
a sun without a sphere;
thy time is now and evermore,
thy place is everywhere.

John Mason (c.1645-1694)

Reading: Matthew 5:13-16 (NRSV)

Jesus said to the crowd,

¹³ 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.'

Hymn 684: Sweet Sacrament Divine

Sweet Sacrament divine,
hid in thine earthly home,
lo, round thy lowly shrine,
with suppliant hearts we come;
Jesu, to thee our voice we raise
in songs of love and heartfelt praise:
sweet Sacrament divine.

Sweet Sacrament of peace,
dear home for every heart,
where restless yearnings cease
and sorrows all depart;
there in thine ear all trustfully
we tell our tale of misery:
sweet Sacrament of peace.

Sweet Sacrament of rest,
ark from the ocean's roar,
within thy shelter blest
soon may we reach the shore;
save us, for still the tempest raves,
save, lest we sink beneath the waves:
sweet Sacrament of rest.

Sweet Sacrament divine,
earth's light and jubilee,
in thy far depths doth shine
thy Godhead's majesty;
sweet light, so shine on us, we pray
that earthly joys may fade away:
sweet Sacrament divine.

Francis Stanfield (1835-1914) alt.

Hymn 628: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near;
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord,
who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shieldeth thee gently from harm,
or when fainting sustaineth:
hast thou not seen
how thy heart's wishes have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord,
who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend thee:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for ay we adore him.

Joachim Neander (1650-1680), trl. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)