

Morning Prayer Readings
August 8 – August 12, 2022 Year 2 – Proper 14
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Monday, August 8
Commemoration of Dominic
(See Biography at End of Collect)

Opening Sentence (changes Daily)

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.” *Psalm 122:1*

Please turn to p.79 in BCP or p. 2 of Booklet for Confession of Sin

Continue with Invitatory and Psalter / BCP p. 80 or p. 3

Continue with Venite (Psalm 95:1-8) M/W/F or Jubilate T/TH

Please turn to page **713**. We will say Psalm **89:1-18**, together.

Psalm 89: Part I *Misericordias Domini* *BCP p. 713*

- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 ‘I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”

- 5 The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O LORD, *
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;
- 6 For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? *
who is like the LORD among the gods?
- 7 God is much to be feared in the council of the holy ones, *
great and terrible to all those round about him.
- 8 Who is like you, LORD God of hosts? *
O mighty LORD, your faithfulness is all around you.
- 9 You rule the raging of the sea *
and still the surging of its waves.
- 10 You have crushed Rahab of the deep with a deadly wound; *
you have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
- 11 Yours are the heavens; the earth also is yours; *
you laid the foundations of the world and all that is in it.
- 12 You have made the north and the south; *
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your Name.
- 13 You have a mighty arm; *
strong is your hand and high is your right hand.
- 14 Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; *
love and truth go before your face.
- 15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout! *
they walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.
- 16 They rejoice daily in your Name; *
they are jubilant in your righteousness.
- 17 For you are the glory of their strength, *
and by your favor our might is exalted.
- 18 Truly, the LORD is our ruler; *
The Holy One of Israel is our King.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The first lesson is from **Judges**

A Reading from the **Book of Judges 12:1-7 NRSV**

The men of Ephraim were called to arms, and they crossed to Zaphon and said to Jephthah, "Why did you cross over to fight against the Ammonites, and did not call us to go with you? We will burn your house down over you!" Jephthah said to them, "My people and I were engaged in conflict with the Ammonites who oppressed us severely. But when I called you, you did not deliver me from their hand. When I saw that you would not deliver me, I took my life in my hand, and crossed over against the Ammonites, and the LORD gave them into my hand. Why then have you come up to me this day, to fight against me?" Then Jephthah gathered all the men of Gilead and fought with Ephraim; and the men of Gilead defeated Ephraim, because they said, "You are fugitives from Ephraim, you Gileadites-- in the heart of Ephraim and Manasseh." Then the Gileadites took the fords of the Jordan against the Ephraimites. Whenever one of the fugitives of Ephraim said, "Let me go over," the men of Gilead would say to him, "Are you an Ephraimite?" When he said, "No," they said to him, "Then say Shibboleth," and he said, "Sibboleth," for he could not pronounce it right. Then they seized him and killed him at the fords of the Jordan. Forty-two thousand of the Ephraimites fell at that time. Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died, and was buried in his town in Gilead.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 86 (or p. 4 in Booklet).

We'll say **Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah** together

The second lesson is from **Acts**

A Reading from the **Letter of Acts of the Apostles 5:12-26 NRSV**

Now many signs and wonders were done among the people through the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people held them in high esteem. Yet more than ever believers were added to the Lord, great numbers of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on cots and mats, in order that Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he came by. A great number of people would also gather from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all cured. Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said, "Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole message about this life." When they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and went on with their teaching. When the high priest and those with him arrived, they called together the council and the whole body of the elders of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the temple police went there, they did not find them in the prison; so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed about them, wondering what might be going on. Then someone arrived and announced, "Look, the

men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!" Then the captain went with the temple police and brought them, but without violence, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 94.

We'll say **Canticle 19, The Song of the Redeemed** together.

The third lesson is from John

A Reading from the **Gospel According to John 3:1-21 NRSV**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we

know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Continue in BCP p. 96 or Booklet p. 12 with Apostles Creed and The Prayers

The Collect of the Day

Proper 13

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Collect for Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221

Almighty God, grant unto your people a hunger for your Word and an urgent longing to share your Gospel; that, like your servant Dominic, we might labor to bring the whole world to the knowledge and love of you as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Continue with BCP p. 99 or Booklet p. 14

DOMINIC

Priest and Friar, 1221

Dominic was the founder of the Order of Preachers, commonly known as Dominicans. In England they were called Black Friars, because of the black mantle they wore over their white habits. Dominic was born circa 1170 in Spain.

Influenced by the contemporary search for a life of apostolic poverty, Dominic is reputed to have sold all his possessions to help the poor during a famine in 1191. Ordained in 1196, he soon became a canon and then sub-prior of the Cathedral of Osma, where a rule of strict discipline was established among the canons.

In 1203 he began a number of preaching tours in Languedoc, a region in Southern France, against the Albigensian heretics, who held Manichaeian, dualistic views. He kept himself aloof, however, from the repressive crusade which was instigated against them. In 1214, his plan to found a special preaching order for the conversion of the

Albigensians began to take shape, and, in the following year, he took his followers to Toulouse.

At the Fourth Lateran Council in October, 1215, Dominic sought confirmation of his order from Pope Innocent III. This was granted by Innocent's successor, Honorius III, in 1216 and 1217.

Over the next few years, Dominic traveled extensively, establishing friaries, organizing the order, and preaching, until his death on August 6, 1221. He is remembered as a man of austere poverty and heroic sanctity, always zealous to win souls by the preaching of pure doctrine.

The Dominican Constitutions, first formulated in 1216 and revised and codified by the Master-General of the Order, Raymond of Peñafort, in 1241, place a strong emphasis on learning, preaching, and teaching, and, partly through the influence of Francis of Assisi, on absolute poverty. The continuing Dominican apostolate embraces intellectual work and the arts of preaching, their major houses usually situated in university centers, to which they have contributed such notable teachers as Thomas Aquinas. Their Constitutions express the priority this way: "In the cells, moreover, they can write, read, pray, sleep, and even stay awake at night, if they desire, on account of study."

Tuesday, August 9
Commemoration of Edith Stein
(Teresa Benedicta of the Cross)
(See Biography at End of Collect)

Opening Sentence (Changes Daily)

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Psalm 19:14

Please turn to p. 79 in BCP or p. 2 of Booklet for Confession of Sin

Continue with Invitatory and Psalter / BCP p. 80 or p. 3

Continue with Venite (Psalm 95:1-8) M/W/F or Jubilate T/TH

Please turn to page **726, 728, [729]**. We will say Psalms **97, 99, [100]** together.

Psalm 97 *Dominus regnavit*

BCP p. 726

- 1 The LORD is King; let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are
the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.

- 5 The mountains melt like wax at
the presence of the LORD, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in
false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the
hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

Psalm 99 *Dominus regnavit*

BCP p. 728

- 1 The LORD is King; let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.
- 2 The LORD is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
- 4 O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and fall down before
his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who
call upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- 8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their
evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and worship him
upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

[Psalm 100 *Jubilate Deo*

BCP p. 729

- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness and come before his presence with
a song.
- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and
the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.]

***Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

The first lesson is from **Judges**

A Reading from the **Book of Judges 13:1-15** *NRSV*

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines forty years. There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. His wife was barren, having borne no children. And the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Although you are barren, having borne no children, you shall conceive and bear a son. Now be careful not to drink wine or strong drink, or to eat anything unclean, for you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor is to come on his head, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth. It is he who shall begin to deliver Israel from the hand of the Philistines." Then the woman came and told her husband, "A man of God came to me, and his appearance was like that of an angel of God, most awe-inspiring; I did not ask him where he came from, and he did not tell me his name; but he said to me, 'You shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth to the day of his death.'" Then Manoah entreated the LORD, and said, "O, LORD, I pray, let the man of God whom you sent come to us again and teach us what we are to do concerning the boy who will be born." God listened to Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman as she sat in the field; but her husband Manoah was not with her. So the woman ran quickly and told her husband, "The man who came to me the other day has appeared to me." Manoah got up and followed his wife, and came to the man and said to him, "Are you the man who spoke to this woman?" And he said, "I am." Then Manoah said, "Now when your words come true, what is to be the boy's rule of life; what is he to do?" The angel of the LORD said to Manoah, "Let the woman give heed to all that I said to her. She may not eat of anything that comes from the vine. She is not to drink wine or strong drink, or

eat any unclean thing. She is to observe everything that I commanded her." Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, "Allow us to detain you, and prepare a kid for you."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page **90 BCP** or **p. 5 of Booklet**.

We'll say **Canticle 13, A Song of Praise** together

The second lesson is from **Acts**

A Reading from the **Letter of Acts of the Apostles 5:27-42 NRSV**

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him." When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, stood up and ordered the men to be put outside for a short time. Then he said to them, "Fellow Israelites, consider carefully what you propose to do to these men. For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him; but he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and disappeared. After him Judas the

Galilean rose up at the time of the census and got people to follow him; he also perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case, I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone; because if this plan or this undertaking is of human origin, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them-- in that case you may even be found fighting against God!" They were convinced by him, and when they had called in the apostles, they had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. As they left the council, they rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name. And every day in the temple and at home they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page **93 of BCP p. 5 of the Booklet**

We'll say **Canticle 18, A Song to the Lamb** together

The third lesson is from **John**

A Reading from the **Gospel According to John 3:22-36** *NRSV*

After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he spent some time there with them and baptized. John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim because water was abundant there; and people kept coming and were being baptized -- John, of course, had not yet been thrown into prison. Now a discussion about purification arose between John's disciples and a Jew. They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, the one who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you testified, here he is baptizing, and all are going to him." John answered, "No one can receive anything except what has

been given from heaven. You yourselves are my witnesses that I said, 'I am not the Messiah, but I have been sent ahead of him.' He who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. For this reason my joy has been fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease." The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is above all. He testifies to what he has seen and heard, yet no one accepts his testimony. Whoever has accepted his testimony has certified this, that God is true. He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not see life, but must endure God's wrath.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Continue in BCP p. 96 or Booklet p. 12 with Apostles Creed and The Prayers

The Collect of the Day

Proper 13

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Collect of Edith Stein (Teresa Benedicta of the Cross)

Pour out your grace upon thy church, O God; that, like your servant Edith Stein, we may always seek what is true, defend what is right, reprove what is evil, and forgive those who sin against us, even as your Son commanded; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Continue with BCP p. 99 or Booklet p. 14

Commemoration of Edith Stein (Teresa Benedicta of the Cross)

Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross' Story (1891 – 1942)

A brilliant philosopher who stopped believing in God when she was 14, Edith Stein was so captivated by reading the autobiography of Teresa of Avila that she began a spiritual journey that led to her baptism in 1922. Twelve years later she imitated Saint Teresa by becoming a Carmelite, taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.

Born into a prominent Jewish family in Breslau, Germany—now Wroclaw, Poland—Edith abandoned Judaism in her teens. As a student at the University of Göttingen, she became fascinated by phenomenology--an approach to philosophy. Excelling as a protégé of Edmund Husserl, one of the leading phenomenologists, Edith earned a doctorate in philosophy in 1916. She continued as a university teacher until 1922, when she moved to a Dominican school in Speyer; her appointment as lecturer at the Educational Institute of Munich ended under pressure from the Nazis.

After living for four years in the Cologne Carmel, Sister Teresa Benedicta moved to the Carmelite monastery in Echt, Netherlands, in 1938. The Nazis occupied that country in 1940. In retaliation for being denounced by the Dutch bishops, the Nazis arrested all Dutch

Jews who had become Christians. Teresa Benedicta and her sister Rosa, also a Catholic, died in a gas chamber in Auschwitz on August 9, 1942.

Pope John Paul II beatified Teresa Benedicta of the Cross in 1987 and canonized her 12 years later.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-teresa-benedicta-of-the-cross>

Wednesday, August 10
Commemoration of Laurence
Deacon and Martyr at Rome
See Biography at End of Collect)

Opening Sentence (Changes Daily)

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. *Psalm 43:3*

Please turn to p. 79 in BCP or p. 2 of Booklet for Confession of Sin

Continue with Invitatory and Psalter / BCP p. 80 or p. 3

Continue with Venite (Psalm 95:1-8) M/W/F or Jubilate T/TH

Please turn to page **730 and 750**. We will say Psalms **101 and 109:1-4 (5-19), 20-30** together.

Psalm 101 *Misericordiam et iudicium*

BCP p. 730

- 1 I will sing of mercy and justice; *
to you, O LORD, will I sing praises.
- 2 I will strive to follow a blameless course; oh, when will you come to me? *
I will walk with sincerity of heart within my house.
- 3 I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; *
I hate the doers of evil deeds; they shall not remain with me.
- 4 A crooked heart shall be far from me; *
I will not know evil.

- 5 Those who in secret slander their neighbors I will destroy; *
those who have a haughty look and a proud heart I cannot abide.
- 6 My eyes are upon the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with
me, *
and only those who lead a blameless life shall be my servants.
- 7 Those who act deceitfully shall not dwell in my house, *
and those who tell lies shall not continue in my sight.
- 8 I will soon destroy all the wicked in the land, *
that I may root out all evildoers from the city of the LORD.

Psalm 109 *Deus, laudem*

BCP p. 750

- 1 Hold not your tongue, O God of my praise; *
for the mouth of the wicked, the mouth of the deceitful, is
opened against me.
- 2 They speak to me with a lying tongue; *
they encompass me with hateful words and fight against me
without a cause.
- 3 Despite my love, they accuse me; *
but as for me, I pray for them.
- 4 They repay evil for good, *
and hatred for my love.
- [5 Set a wicked man against him, *
and let an accuser stand at his right hand.**
- 6 When he is judged, let him be found guilty, *
and let his appeal be in vain.**
- 7 Let his days be few, *
and let another take his office.**
- 8 Let his children be fatherless, *
and his wife become a widow.**

- 9 Let his children be waifs and beggars; *
let them be driven from the ruins of their homes.**
- 10 Let the creditor seize everything he has; *
let strangers plunder his gains.**
- 11 Let there be no one to show him kindness, *
and none to pity his fatherless children.**
- 12 Let his descendants be destroyed, *
and his name be blotted out in the next generation.**
- 13 Let the wickedness of his fathers be remembered before
the LORD, *
and his mother's sin not be blotted out;**
- 14 Let their sin be always before the LORD; *
but let him root out their names from the earth;**
- 15 Because he did not remember to show mercy, *
but persecuted the poor and needy and sought to kill the
brokenhearted.**
- 16 He loved cursing, let it come upon him; *
he took no delight in blessing, let it depart from him.**
- 17 He put on cursing like a garment, *
let it soak into his body like water and into his bones like
oil;**
- 18 Let it be to him like the cloak which he wraps around
himself, *
and like the belt that he wears continually.**
- 19 Let this be the recompense from the LORD to my accusers, *
and to those who speak evil against me.]**
- 20 But you, O Lord my GOD,
oh, deal with me according to your Name; *
for your tender mercy's sake, deliver me.**

- 21 For I am poor and needy, *
and my heart is wounded within me.
- 22 I have faded away like a shadow when it lengthens; *
I am shaken off like a locust.
- 23 My knees are weak through fasting, *
and my flesh is wasted and gaunt.
- 24 I have become a reproach to them; *
they see and shake their heads.
- 25 Help me, O LORD my God; *
save me for your mercy's sake.
- 26 Let them know that this is your hand, *
that you, O LORD, have done it.
- 27 They may curse, but you will bless; *
let those who rise up against me be put to shame, and your
servant will rejoice.
- 28 Let my accusers be clothed with disgrace *
and wrap themselves in their shame as in a cloak.
- 29 I will give great thanks to the LORD with my mouth; *
in the midst of the multitude will I praise him;
- 30 Because he stands at the right hand of the needy, *
to save his life from those who would condemn him.

***Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

The first lesson is from **Judges**

A Reading from the **Book of Judges 13:15-24 NRSV**

Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, "Allow us to detain you, and prepare a kid for you." The angel of the LORD said to Manoah, "If

you detain me, I will not eat your food; but if you want to prepare a burnt offering, then offer it to the LORD." (For Manoah did not know that he was the angel of the LORD.) Then Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, "What is your name, so that we may honor you when your words come true?" But the angel of the LORD said to him, "Why do you ask my name? It is too wonderful." So Manoah took the kid with the grain offering, and offered it on the rock to the LORD, to him who works wonders. When the flame went up toward heaven from the altar, the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar while Manoah and his wife looked on; and they fell on their faces to the ground. The angel of the LORD did not appear again to Manoah and his wife. Then Manoah realized that it was the angel of the LORD. And Manoah said to his wife, "We shall surely die, for we have seen God." But his wife said to him, "If the LORD had meant to kill us, he would not have accepted a burnt offering and a grain offering at our hands, or shown us all these things, or now announced to us such things as these." The woman bore a son, and named him Samson. The boy grew, and the LORD blessed him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to BCP page **87** or p. **6** in the Booklet.

We'll say **Canticle 11, The Third Song of Isaiah** together

The second lesson is from **Acts**

A Reading from the **Letter of Acts of the Apostles 6:1-15 NRSV**

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And

the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page **92** of **BCP** or **p. 7** of the **Booklet**. **Note: In the season of Pentecost, we will end the Song of Zechariah at the line “all the days of our lives”. (The last paragraph is said during Advent.)**

We'll say **Canticle 16, The Song of Zechariah** together

The third lesson is from **John**

A Reading from the **Gospel According to John 4:1-26 NRSV**

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, "Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John" -- although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized-- he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep

coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband' for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Continue in BCP p. 96 or Booklet p. 12 with Apostles Creed and The Prayers

The Collect of the Day

Proper 13

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Collect for Laurence Deacon and Martyr

Almighty God, by whose grace and power your servant Laurence triumphed over suffering and despised death: Grant that we may be steadfast in service to the poor and outcast, and may share with him in the joys of your everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Continue with BCP p. 99 or Booklet p. 14

LAURENCE

Deacon, and Martyr at Rome, 258

Laurence the Deacon was martyred at Rome during a persecution initiated in 257 by the Emperor Valerian, aimed primarily at the clergy and the laity of the upper classes; all properties used by the Church were confiscated, and assemblies for Christian worship were forbidden. On August 4, 258, Pope Sixtus II and his seven deacons were apprehended in the Roman catacombs and summarily executed, except for the archdeacon, Laurence, who was martyred on the tenth. Though no authentic record of Laurence's ordeal has been preserved, tradition maintains that the prefect demanded information from him about the Church's treasures. Laurence, in reply, assembled the sick and poor to whom, as archdeacon, he had distributed the Church's relief funds, and presented them to the prefect, saying, "These are the treasures of the Church." Laurence is believed to have been roasted alive on a gridiron.

The Emperor Constantine erected a shrine and basilica over Laurence's tomb in a catacomb on the Via Tiburtina. The present Church of St. Laurence Outside the Walls, a beautiful double basilica (damaged in World War II), includes a choir and sanctuary erected by Pope Pelagius II (579–590) and a nave by Pope Honorius III (1216–1227).

Laurence is the subject of a small round glass medallion, probably dating from the fourth century, now in the Metropolitan Museum in New York. It bears the simple inscription, "Live with Christ and Laurence."

The Greek word from which we derive our English word "martyr" simply means "witness;" in the age of the persecutions, before Constantine recognized the Church early in the fourth century, a "martyr" came to be generally understood, as it is to this day, as one who had witnessed even to death. For Laurence, as for all the martyrs, to die for Christ was to live with Christ.

Thursday, August 11
Commemoration of Clare
See Biography at End of Collect)

Opening Sentence (Changes Daily)

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him. *Habakkuk 2:20*

Please turn to p. 79 in BCP or p. 2 of Booklet for Confession of Sin

Continue with Invitatory and Psalter / BCP p. 80 or p. 3

Continue with Venite (Psalm 95:1-8) M/W/F or Jubilate T/TH

Please turn to page **738**. We will say Psalm **105:1-22** together.

Psalm 105: Part I *Confitemini Domino*

BCP p. 738

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.

- 7 He is the LORD our God; *
his judgments prevail in all the world.
- 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
- 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- 11 Saying, “To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance.”
- 12 When they were few in number, *
of little account, and sojourners in the land,
- 13 Wandering from nation to nation *
and from one kingdom to another,
- 14 He let no one oppress them *
and rebuked kings for their sake,
- 15 Saying, “Do not touch my anointed *
and do my prophets no harm.”
- 16 Then he called for a famine in the land *
and destroyed the supply of bread.
- 17 He sent a man before them, *
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
- 18 They bruised his feet in fetters; *
his neck they put in an iron collar.
- 19 Until his prediction came to pass, *
the word of the LORD tested him.
- 20 The king sent and released him; *
the ruler of the peoples set him free.
- 21 He set him as a master over his household, *
as a ruler over all his possessions,

22 To instruct his princes according to his will *
and to teach his elders wisdom.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

The first lesson is from **Judges**

A Reading from the **Book of Judges 14:1-19** *NRSV*

Once Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw a Philistine woman. Then he came up, and told his father and mother, "I saw a Philistine woman at Timnah; now get her for me as my wife." But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among your kin, or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, because she pleases me." His father and mother did not know that this was from the LORD; for he was seeking a pretext to act against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel. Then Samson went down with his father and mother to Timnah. When he came to the vineyards of Timnah, suddenly a young lion roared at him. The spirit of the LORD rushed on him, and he tore the lion apart barehanded as one might tear apart a kid. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done. Then he went down and talked with the woman, and she pleased Samson. After a while he returned to marry her, and he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion, and there was a swarm of bees in the body of the lion, and honey. He scraped it out into his hands, and went on, eating as he went. When he came to his father and mother, he gave some to them, and they ate it. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey from the carcass of the lion. His father went down to the woman, and Samson made a feast there as

the young men were accustomed to do. When the people saw him, they brought thirty companions to be with him. Samson said to them, "Let me now put a riddle to you. If you can explain it to me within the seven days of the feast, and find it out, then I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty festal garments. But if you cannot explain it to me, then you shall give me thirty linen garments and thirty festal garments." So they said to him, "Ask your riddle; let us hear it." He said to them, "Out of the eater came something to eat. Out of the strong came something sweet." But for three days they could not explain the riddle. On the fourth day they said to Samson's wife, "Coax your husband to explain the riddle to us, or we will burn you and your father's house with fire. Have you invited us here to impoverish us?" So Samson's wife wept before him, saying, "You hate me; you do not really love me. You have asked a riddle of my people, but you have not explained it to me." He said to her, "Look, I have not told my father or my mother. Why should I tell you?" She wept before him the seven days that their feast lasted; and because she nagged him, on the seventh day he told her. Then she explained the riddle to her people. The men of the town said to him on the seventh day before the sun went down, "What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?" And he said to them, "If you had not plowed with my heifer, you would not have found out my riddle." Then the spirit of the LORD rushed on him, and he went down to Ashkelon. He killed thirty men of the town, took their spoil, and gave the festal garments to those who had explained the riddle. In hot anger he went back to his father's house.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page **85 of BCP** or **p. 8 of the Booklet**

We'll say **Canticle 8, The Song of Moses** together.

The second lesson is from **Acts**

A Reading from the **Letter of Acts of the Apostles 6:15-7:16 NRSV**

And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel. Then the high priest asked him, "Are these things so?" And Stephen replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me. The God of glory appeared to our ancestor Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'Leave your country and your relatives and go to the land that I will show you.' Then he left the country of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. After his father died, God had him move from there to this country in which you are now living. He did not give him any of it as a heritage, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him as his possession and to his descendants after him, even though he had no child. And God spoke in these terms, that his descendants would be resident aliens in a country belonging to others, who would enslave them and mistreat them during four hundred years. 'But I will judge the nation that they serve,' said God, 'and after that they shall come out and worship me in this place.' Then he gave him the covenant of circumcision. And so Abraham became the father of Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day; and Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob of the twelve patriarchs. "The patriarchs, jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt; but God was with him, and rescued him from all his afflictions, and enabled him to win favor and to show wisdom when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, who appointed him ruler over Egypt and over all his household. Now there came a famine throughout Egypt and Canaan, and great suffering, and our ancestors could find no food. But when Jacob heard that there was grain in

Egypt, he sent our ancestors there on their first visit. On the second visit Joseph made himself known to his brothers, and Joseph's family became known to Pharaoh. Then Joseph sent and invited his father Jacob and all his relatives to come to him, seventy-five in all; so Jacob went down to Egypt. He himself died there as well as our ancestors, and their bodies were brought back to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham had bought for a sum of silver from the sons of Hamor in Shechem.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page **94 of BCP** or **p. 9 of Booklet.**

We'll say **Canticle 20, Glory to God** together

The third lesson is from John

A Reading from the **Gospel According to John 4:27-42 NRSV**

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper

is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Continue in BCP p. 96 or Booklet p. 12 with Apostles Creed and The Prayers

The Collect of the Day

Proper 13

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Collect for Clare of Assisi, Monastic, 1253

O God, whose blessed Son became poor that we, through his poverty, might become rich: Deliver us from an inordinate love of this world, that we, inspired by the devotion of your servant Clare, might serve you with singleness of heart and attain to the riches of the age to

come; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Continue with BCP p. 99 or Booklet p. 14

CLARE

Abbess at Assisi, 1253

In the latter part of the twelfth century, the Church had fallen on evil days and was weak and spiritually impoverished. It was then that Francis of Assisi renounced his wealth and established the mendicant order of Franciscans. At the first gathering of the order in 1212, Francis preached a sermon that was to make a radical change in the life of an eighteen-year-old young woman named Clare Offreduccio.

The daughter of a wealthy family and a noted beauty, Clare was inspired by Francis' words with the desire to serve God and to give her life to the following of Christ's teaching. She sought out Francis and begged that she might become a member of his order, placing her jewelry and rich outer garments on the altar as an offering. Francis could not refuse her pleas. He placed her temporarily in a nearby Benedictine convent.

When this action became known, friends and relatives tried to take Clare from her retreat. She was adamant. She would be the bride of Christ alone. She prevailed, and soon after was taken by Francis to a poor dwelling beside the Church of St. Damian at Assisi. Several other women joined her. She became Mother Superior of the order, which was called the "Poor Ladies of St. Damian," and, after her death, the "Poor Clares" in tribute to her.

The order's practices were austere. They embraced the Franciscan rule of absolute poverty. Their days were given over to begging and to works of mercy for the poor and the neglected. Clare herself was servant, not only to the poor, but to her nuns.

Clare governed the convent for forty years, caring for the sisters, ready to do whatever Francis directed. She said to him, "I am yours by having given my will to God." Her biographer says that she "radiated a spirit of fervor so strong that it kindled those who but heard her voice."

In 1253, her last illness began. Daily she weakened, and daily she was visited by devoted people, by priests, and even by the Pope. On her last day, as she saw many weeping by her bedside, she exhorted them to love "holy poverty" and to share their possessions. She was heard to say: "Go forth in peace, for you have followed the good road. Go forth without fear, for he that created you has sanctified you, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Blessed be God, for having created me."

Friday, August 12
Commemoration of Florence Nightingale
See Biography at End of Collect)

Opening Sentence (Changes Daily)

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. *John 4:23*

Please turn to p.79 in BCP or p. 2 of Booklet for Confession of Sin

Continue with Invitatory and Psalter / BCP p. 80 or p. 3

Continue with Venite (Psalm 95:1-8) M/W/F or Jubilate T/TH

Please turn to page **731**. Let us say together Psalm **102** together.

Psalm 102 *Domine, exaudi*

BCP p. 731

- 1 LORD, hear my prayer, and let my cry come before you; *
hide not your face from me in the day of my trouble.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
when I call, make haste to answer me,
- 3 For my days drift away like smoke, *
and my bones are hot as burning coals.
- 4 My heart is smitten like grass and withered, *
so that I forget to eat my bread.
- 5 Because of the voice of my groaning *
I am but skin and bones.

- 6 I have become like a vulture in the wilderness, *
like an owl among the ruins.
- 7 I lie awake and groan; *
I am like a sparrow, lonely on a house-top.
- 8 My enemies revile me all day long, *
and those who scoff at me have taken an oath against me.
- 9 For I have eaten ashes for bread *
and mingled my drink with weeping.
- 10 Because of your indignation and wrath *
you have lifted me up and thrown me away.
- 11 My days pass away like a shadow, *
and I wither like the grass.
- 12 But you, O LORD, endure for ever, *
and your Name from age to age.
- 13 You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to
have mercy upon her; *
indeed, the appointed time has come.
- 14 For your servants love her very rubble, *
and are moved to pity even for her dust.
- 15 The nations shall fear your Name, O LORD, *
and all the kings of the earth your glory.
- 16 For the LORD will build up Zion, *
and his glory will appear.
- 17 He will look with favor on the prayer of the homeless; *
he will not despise their plea.
- 18 Let this be written for a future generation, *
so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD.
- 19 For the LORD looked down from his holy place on high; *
from the heavens he beheld the earth;

- 20 That he might hear the groan of the captive *
and set free those condemned to die;
- 21 That they may declare in Zion the Name of the LORD, *
and his praise in Jerusalem;
- 22 When the peoples are gathered together, *
and the kingdoms also, to serve the LORD.
- 23 He has brought down my strength before my time; *
he has shortened the number of my days;
- 24 And I said, “O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my
days; *
your years endure throughout all generations.
- 25 In the beginning, O LORD, you laid the foundations of the
earth, *
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
- 26 They shall perish, but you will endure; they all shall wear out like
a garment; *
as clothing you will change them, and they shall be changed;
- 27 But you are always the same, *
and your years will never end.
- 28 The children of your servants shall continue, *
and their offspring shall stand fast in your sight.”

***Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

The first lesson is from **Judges**

A Reading from the **Book of Judges 14:20-15:20 NRSV**

And Samson's wife was given to his companion, who had been his best man. After a while, at the time of the wheat harvest, Samson

went to visit his wife, bringing along a kid. He said, "I want to go into my wife's room." But her father would not allow him to go in. Her father said, "I was sure that you had rejected her; so I gave her to your companion. Is not her younger sister prettier than she? Why not take her instead?" Samson said to them, "This time, when I do mischief to the Philistines, I will be without blame." So Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took some torches; and he turned the foxes tail to tail, and put a torch between each pair of tails. When he had set fire to the torches, he let the foxes go into the standing grain of the Philistines, and burned up the shocks and the standing grain, as well as the vineyards and olive groves. Then the Philistines asked, "Who has done this?" And they said, "Samson, the son-in-law of the Timnite, because he has taken Samson's wife and given her to his companion." So the Philistines came up, and burned her and her father. Samson said to them, "If this is what you do, I swear I will not stop until I have taken revenge on you." He struck them down hip and thigh with great slaughter; and he went down and stayed in the cleft of the rock of Etam. Then the Philistines came up and encamped in Judah, and made a raid on Lehi. The men of Judah said, "Why have you come up against us?" They said, "We have come up to bind Samson, to do to him as he did to us." Then three thousand men of Judah went down to the cleft of the rock of Etam, and they said to Samson, "Do you not know that the Philistines are rulers over us? What then have you done to us?" He replied, "As they did to me, so I have done to them." They said to him, "We have come down to bind you, so that we may give you into the hands of the Philistines." Samson answered them, "Swear to me that you yourselves will not attack me." They said to him, "No, we will only bind you and give you into their hands; we will not kill you." So they bound him with two new ropes, and brought him up from the rock. When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him; and the spirit of the LORD rushed on him, and the ropes that were on his arms became

like flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands. Then he found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, reached down and took it, and with it he killed a thousand men. And Samson said, "With the jawbone of a donkey, heaps upon heaps, with the jawbone of a donkey I have slain a thousand men." When he had finished speaking, he threw away the jawbone; and that place was called Ramath-lehi. By then he was very thirsty, and he called on the LORD, saying, "You have granted this great victory by the hand of your servant. Am I now to die of thirst, and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?" So God split open the hollow place that is at Lehi, and water came from it. When he drank, his spirit returned, and he revived. Therefore it was named En-hakkore, which is at Lehi to this day. And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page **86 of BCP** or **p. 10 of the Booklet**

We'll say **Canticle 10, The Second Song of Isaiah** together

The second lesson is from **Acts**

A Reading from the **Letter of Acts to the Apostles 7:17-29 NRSV**

“But as the time drew near for the fulfillment of the promise that God had made to Abraham, our people in Egypt increased and multiplied until another king who had not known Joseph ruled over Egypt. He dealt craftily with our race and forced our ancestors to abandon their infants so that they would die. At this time Moses was born, and he was beautiful before God. For three months he was brought up in his father's house; and when he was abandoned, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own

son. So Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in his words and deeds. "When he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his relatives, the Israelites. When he saw one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian. He supposed that his kinsfolk would understand that God through him was rescuing them, but they did not understand. The next day he came to some of them as they were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, 'Men, you are brothers; why do you wrong each other?' But the man who was wronging his neighbor pushed Moses aside, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' When he heard this, Moses fled and became a resident alien in the land of Midian. There he became the father of two sons.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page **93 of the BCP** or **p. 11 of the Booklet**.

We'll say **Canticle 18, A Song to the Lamb** together

The third lesson is from **John**

A Reading from the **Gospel According to John 4:43-54** *NRSV*

When the two days were over, he went from that place to Galilee (for Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in the prophet's own country). When he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, since they had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the festival; for they too had gone to the festival. Then he came again to Cana in Galilee where he had changed the water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum. When

he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my little boy dies." Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way. As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his child was alive. So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him, "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him." The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he himself believed, along with his whole household. Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Continue in BCP p. 96 or Booklet p. 12 with Apostles Creed and The Prayers

The Collect of the Day

Proper 13

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Fridays

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Amen.

A Collect for Florence Nightingale, Nurse, 1910

O God, who gave grace to your servant Florence Nightingale to bear your healing love into the shadow of death: Grant to all who heal the same virtues of patience, mercy, and steadfast love, that your saving health may be revealed to all; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Continue with BCP p. 99 or Booklet p. 14

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910

Florence Nightingale was born to a wealthy English family in Florence, Italy, on May 12, 1820. She was trained as a nurse in a hospital run by a Lutheran order of Deaconesses at Kaiserwerth (1851) and in 1853 became superintendent of a hospital for invalid women in London. In response to God's call and animated by a spirit of service, in 1854 she volunteered for duty during the Crimean War and recruited 38 nurses to join her. With them she organized the first modern nursing service in the British field hospitals of Scutari and Balaclava.

Making late-night rounds to check on the welfare of her charges, a hand-held lantern to aid her, the wounded identified her as “The Lady with the Lamp.” By imposing strict discipline and high standards of sanitation she radically reduced the drastic death toll and rampant infection then typical in field hospitals. She returned to England in 1856, and a fund of £50,000 was subscribed to enable her to form an institution for the training of nurses at St. Thomas’s Hospital and at King’s College Hospital. Her school at St. Thomas’s Hospital became significant in helping to elevate nursing into a profession. She devoted many years to the question of army sanitary reform, to the improvement of nursing, and to public health in India. Her main work, *Notes on Nursing* (1859), went through many editions.

An Anglican, she remained committed to a personal mystical religion, which sustained her through many years of poor health until her death in 1910. Until the end of her life, although her illness prevented her from leaving her home, she continued in frequent spiritual conversation with many prominent church leaders of the day, including the local parish priest, who regularly brought Communion to her. By the time of her death on August 13, 1910, her accomplishments and legacy were widely recognized, and she is honored throughout the world as the founder of the modern profession of nursing.

**Thank You
Have a Blessed Weekend!**