

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Year B

16th May 2021

White

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
your blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things:
mercifully give us faith to trust
that, as he promised,
he abides with us on earth until the end of time;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles,

Chapter 1 beginning at Verse 15

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, ¹⁶ 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷ for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.' ²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' ²³ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

[NRSV Acts 1:15-17,21-26]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 1

- 1 Blessed are they
who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly:
nor followed the way of sinners,
nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.
- 2 But their delight is in the law of the Lord:
and on that law will they ponder day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted beside streams of water:
that yield their fruit in due season.
- 4 Their leaves also shall not wither:
and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper.
- 5 As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:
they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.
- 6 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up
at the judgement:
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- 7 For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:
but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

A reading from the First letter of John,

Chapter 5 beginning at Verse 9

⁹ If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰ Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. [NRSV 1 John 5:9-13]

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John,

Chapter 17 beginning at verse 6

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

⁶ 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. [NRSV John 17:6-19]

This is the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sentence

Jesus prayed, 'Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'