

Sky Sunday

Season of Creation
19th September 2021

Year B

Green

Prayer of the Day:

Creator God,
we give thanks for the skies above us,
the light of day and the star-filled night.
It envelopes us and protects us, blows on us and rains.
Awash us then Lord, of our disregard for the integrity of the sky,
Comfort us in our lament for global changes as the atmosphere
reacts to our abuse.
Your Son, knows abuse, and knows forgiveness.
Teach us, O Lord, to care. **Amen.**

A reading from the Jeremiah

Chapter 4 beginning at verse 23.

23 I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void;
and to the heavens, and they had no light.
24 I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking,
and all the hills moved to and fro.
25 I looked, and lo, there was no one at all,
and all the birds of the air had fled.
26 I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert,
and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his
fierce anger.
27 For thus says the Lord:
The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.
28 Because of this the earth shall mourn,
and the heavens above grow black;
for I have spoken, I have purposed;
I have not relented nor will I turn back.

[NRSV Jeremiah 4:23-28]

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

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark,
Chapter 15 beginning at verse 33*

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalm 19: 1-6 [ABPA p 239]

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God:
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork;
- 2 One day tells it to another:
and night to night communicates knowledge.
- 3 There is no speech or language:
nor are their voice heard;
- 4 Yet their sound has gone out through all the world:
and their words to the ends of the earth.
5. There he has pitched a tent for the sun:
which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber,
and rejoices like a strong man to run his course.
- 6 Its rising is at one end of the heavens,
and its circuit to their farthest bound:
and nothing is hidden from its heat.

*A reading from the letter to the Philippians,
Chapter 2 beginning at Verse 14*

¹⁴ Do all things without murmuring and arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. ¹⁶ It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷ But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you— ¹⁸ and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

[NRSV Philippians 2: 14-18]

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

³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ³⁵ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶ And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷ Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸ And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹ Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

[NRSV Mark 15:33-39]

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

Sentence:

The heavens declare the glory of God, one day tells it to another: