

Sunday 17 October 2021, 29th Week in Ordinary Time

Sentence

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. *Mark 10.45*

Prayer of the Day

God of unchangeable power,
when the heaven and earth were made,
the morning stars sang together
and the host of heaven shouted for joy:
open our eyes to the wonders of creation
and teach us to use all things for good, t
o the honour of your glorious name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer of the Week

Almighty God,
your Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1st Reading

Job 38.1-7

Then 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?

Psalm

Psalm 104.1-10, 104.26

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul:

O Lord my God, how great you are!

² **Clothed with majesty and honour:
wrapped in light as in a garment.**

³ You have stretched out the heavens like a tent-cloth:
and laid the beams of your dwelling upon their waters;

⁴ **You make the clouds your chariot:
and ride upon the wings of the wind;**

⁵ You make the winds your messengers:
and flames of fire your ministers;

**⁶ You have set the earth on its foundations:
so that it shall never be moved.**

⁷ The deep covered it as with a mantle:
the waters stood above the hills.

**⁸ At your rebuke they fled:
at the voice of your thunder they hurried away;**

⁹ They went up to the mountains,
they went down by the valleys:
to the place which you had appointed for them.

**¹⁰ You fixed a limit which they may not pass:
they shall not return again to cover the earth.**

²⁶ Lord, how various are your works:
in wisdom you have made them all,
and the earth is full of your creatures.

2nd 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 him 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.’ 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.’