



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

5 November 2017

Sentence

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. *Matthew 5.10*

Collect

We praise you heavenly Father,
that you have knit together your chosen ones
in one communion and fellowship
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord:
give us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
you have prepared for those who truly love you;
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Revelation

The book of revelation was written to churches under persecution to assure them that ultimately God rules in heaven and on earth, not Roman emperors or any other despotic regime. This passage speaks of those who have been faithful to the end and now worship God in heaven, all suffering now passed.

There was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, "Amen!" Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.' Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who

are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Revelation 7.9-17

Reader For the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Psalm 34.1-10, 22 at 8am APBA p.

This is a thanksgiving prayer for deliverance from trouble. It is attributed to a time when David feigned madness to escape an enemy.

A reading from first letter of John

At our baptism we become children of God and what this means will be fully revealed to us when we see God face to face.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

1 John 3.1-3

Reader May your word live in us

All And bear much fruit to your glory.

Gospel Acclamation

All Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cantor Blessed are those who share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

All Alleluia!

Reader The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

Reader A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus teaches that it is those who do not put themselves first and those who suffer in this world, who will be first in the Kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

Matthew 5.1-12

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord

ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Prayer for the Week.

God our Father, whose will it is to bring all things to order and unity in our Lord Jesus Christ:

may all the peoples of the world, now divided and torn apart by sin, be brought together under his sovereign rule of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings next week:

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

12 November 2017

Joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78.1-7

1 Thessalonians 4.9-18 Matthew 25.1-13

Pray for the Faithful Departed

We remember before God, Frederick Moss, Robert Loyer Priest, Mavis Jane Cook, Megan Proctor, Isabel Gray, Charles Sexton Priest, Lilian MacKenzie, George Terrell (Sam) Crowl, Norma Djismoen, Elizabeth (Beth) Knight, Moen Djismoen, John Terrell Goodall, James Morison, Ruby Cooke, Dora Hills, and Margaret Tenison Philip whose anniversaries occur this week.

Commemorations of the week.

8 November. Saints, martyrs, missionaries and teachers of the Anglican Communion. We remember specifically the great number of Anglicans who have gone before us but who are not otherwise remembered during the year.

November 10. Leo of Rome (d. 461), one of the great Popes of the early church (he is styled 'Leo the Great'). He was an eminent teacher and his *Tome* greatly influenced the Council of Chalcedon, which laid the basis for the Nicene Creed.

O God, at whose table
we are no longer strangers;
may we not refuse your call
through pride or fear,
but approach with confidence
to find our home in you
through Jesus Christ. Amen

A prayer for All Saints from Janet Morley *All Desires Known*.
(SPCK, 2005)

