

Welcome to Worship

September 8th, 2024

Prelude

Meditation on "Leicester" ~ Henry Coleman

Gathering Hymn

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace ~ ELW 716

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Exodus 32: 9-14

Psalms

146

Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, | O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,

and in that day | their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,

whose hope is in the | Lord their God;

who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all | that is in them;

who keeps promis- | es forever;

who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

The Lord sets the | captive free.

The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who | are bowed down;

the Lord | loves the righteous.

The Lord cares | for the stranger;

the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

The Lord shall | reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

Second Reading

James 2:1-17

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

Gospel

Mark 7:24-37

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Hymn of the Day

O God of Mercy, God of Light ~ ELW 714

Musical Offering

Maya's Prayer for Peace ~ Tom Trenney (All Saints Choir)

Offertory Hymn

Feed Us with Hunger for Justice ~ ACS 968 (3x)

Communion Hymn

Healer of Our Every Ill ~ ELW 612

Sending Hymn

For the Wholeness of the Earth ~ ACS 1067

Postlude

O For a Heart to Praise My God ~ Henry Coleman

Flowers are in Celebration of Renewal-Pastor Kristin