

Readings for Easter 7 - 16th May 2021.

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.'

John 17.11

Collect

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.**

Acts 1.15-17, 1.21-26

Our first reading is taken from the Book of Acts,
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.

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

Psalm 1

Our psalm today comes from Psalm 1, I will read one verse, and I invite you to respond with the next verse

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.

1 John 5: 9-13

Our second reading is taken 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.

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

John 17: 6-19

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.

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