

Readings – St Cuthbert's Day Service 08-09-2024

Sentence

To all whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

Jeremiah 1.76

Collect

Almighty God,
who called your servant Cuthbert from following the flock
to follow your Son and to be a Shepherd of your people: in your
mercy, grant that we, following his example, may bring those
who are lost home to your fold; through Jesus Christ your Son
our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Ezekiel 34: 11-16

Our first reading is taken from Ezekiel, Chapter 34 beginning at Verse 11

¹¹ For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹² As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

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

Psalm 23

Our Psalm today comes from Psalm 23. I will read one verse, and I invite you to respond with the next verse,

¹ The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.

² **He will make me lie down in green pastures: and lead me beside still waters.**

³ He will refresh my soul: and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.**

⁵ You spread a table before me in the face of those who trouble me: you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

⁶ **Surely your goodness and loving-kindness will follow me all the days of my life: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

2 Corinthians 6: 1-10

Our second reading is taken from the 2nd Book of Corinthians, Chapter 6, beginning at Verse 1

⁶ As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ² For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³ We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹ as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

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

Matthew 18: 12-14

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

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew,
Chapter 18, beginning at Verse 12,

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, ¹²“What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. ¹⁴ In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.