

A Reading from the Book of 1 Kings 17:8-16

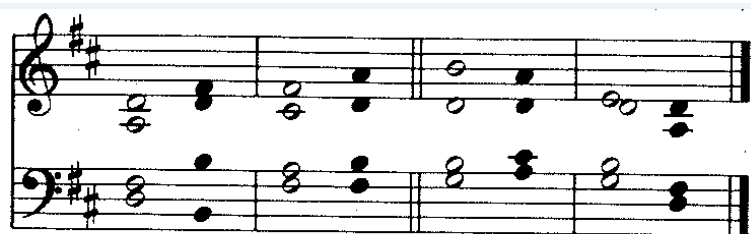
The word of the Lord came to Elijah, saying, “Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.” She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

People’s response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146

S410



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1 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**.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of **earth**, *
for there is no help in **them**.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to **earth**, *
and in that day their thoughts **perish**.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their **help**! *
whose hope is in the Lord their **God**;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is **in them**; *
who keeps his promise for **ever**;

6 Who gives justice to those who are **oppressed**, *
and food to those who **hunger**.

7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the **blind**; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed **down**;

8 The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the **stranger**; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the **wicked**.

9 The Lord shall reign for **ever**, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

A Reading from the Book of Hebrews 9:24-28

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

People’s response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: “Jesus came, adored by angels”

Blue Hymnal 454

(vv. 1-2 before Gospel; vv. 3-4 after Gospel)

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 12:38-44

People’s response before the Gospel

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

People’s response after the Gospel

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Sean Maloney

The Nicene Creed

Spoken by all, standing.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People— from Hear Our Prayer: Prayers of the People for the Revised Common Lectionary

The Leader and People pray responsively

Let us pray for the needs of the world, calling to our loving God, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord, you called the widow generous and spurned the gifts of those who gave to you only to be deemed holy by others. Give us hearts of generosity that seek ways to give to your church, your missionaries, your people in need, and in lavish delight to those most in need. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord, give to our national and community leaders a desire to give generously of their time, their talents, their ideas, and their faith. Remind every person in authority that leadership requires a generous spirit but even more, a generous heart. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord, give to those who are anxious this day a sense of your nearness, that they might feel your comfort. Ease our burdens and worries, give us peace and patience and a way forward. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord, give to us a reverence for your creation and a keen desire to protect the natural world and to advocate for its preservation and sustenance. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We pray for all those who are in need of our prayers, especially ... [Names from prayer list in insert]: Lord, bless those who are facing long term illness, loss of independence, diagnosis, and testing; give them a hope that, in you, all things are made new and no life is insignificant in your eyes. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord, give to the dying your peace and comfort and bring them to abide with you in your heavenly kingdom. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Gracious God, thank you for hearing our prayers. Use us in our turn to help fulfill the prayers and needs of others. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

The People may add their own petitions.

You have promised to hear and respond to us when we gather in your name; answer us with your loving kindness that our hopes maybe fulfilled. All this we ask through the One who showed us your love most perfectly, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant:

Let us confess our sins to God. *(Silence may be kept.)*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.